

Merry Christmas

CANNON COURIER

Home of Santa Claus

128th YEAR - NO. 35

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2012

TWO SECTIONS - 50¢ PER COPY

No way to celebrate Christmas back in winter of 1862

Story, page 7



'Joy to the World' Cannon Courier's Christmas tribute

Special Section: Page 17



Don't forget those in need

Christmas is nearly here but many local cupboards are bare.

That's why the Cannon County Emergency Food Bank is pushing for donations.

Constant demand has stripped the Food Bank's shelves nearly bare too.

"They need almost every kind of non-perishable food except for corn and green beans," said volunteer Carolyn Motley of the Cannon County Chamber of Commerce.

And because the Food Bank also benefits fire victims, basic cleaning supplies, even toothpaste and toilet paper are needed.

No donation is too small, but large group donations are encouraged too. Groups can call 563-2222.

Collection bins are at Osborne's Piggly Wiggly, Dollar General Market, Save-A-Lot and Jennings Jewelers.

New ag building to honor ex-Rep

Named after Stratton Bone

TONY STINNETT
Courier Sports Editor

A new state-of-the-art agriculture building being built at Cannon County High School will bear the name of the former state representative instrumental in helping obtain funds necessary to construct the facility.

Upon a recommendation from former agriculture teacher Bob Melton, the Cannon County Board of Education unanimously voted to name the new building the Stratton Bone Agriculture Pavilion during its regular monthly meeting at Woodbury Grammar School Thursday (Dec. 13).

The building, currently under construction, is 80 feet by 200 feet and is an open-sided structure. It will include meeting rooms, restrooms and serve as a multipurpose facility

dedicated to serving area youth and adult agricultural education programs in Cannon County.

Bone was a driving force in obtaining grants through the State of Tennessee for the construction of the building during his final term in 2010.

Director of Schools Barbara Parker recognized Cannon County grammar school students who recently competed at the Tennessee Junior Beta Convention. Woodbury Grammar eighth-grader Jake Walkup finished first in the state chaplain competition. Walkup became Woodbury Grammar's first state officer.

Auburn Elementary's McKenzie Turney finished second in speech competition; and Woodbury Grammar School

See NEW AG, page 9



Believe it or not, Christmas is here as this dancing snowman attests. Schools are closed and Cannon County youngsters are counting down the minutes until Santa Claus arrives.

Banker to say goodbye

MIKE WEST
Courier Editor

New Year's Eve is going to be a big day for one Woodbury resident.

Virginia Campbell is retiring from Regions Bank on Dec. 31, 2012.

"So?" you might ask. "What's the big deal about that?"

"I've worked 48 years for the same organization, beginning with the Bank of Commerce, later with Union Planters Bank and now Regions and now it's time to go," Virginia smiled.

All of those banks have occupied the same building at

200 Water St. in Woodbury. Bank customers and the public are invited to come enjoy cake and punch and to say goodbye to Virginia from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Dec. 31.

"She's been a pillar of the community right at this bank. She will truly be missed," said Eddie Sikes, bank president.

When Virginia first joined the bank's staff it was 1964. "It was a different time and a different way of doing business.

"I've witnessed a lot of changes and a lot of people

See BANKER, page 9

Cannon's 'Ice Age' revisited

DAN WHITTLE
Courier Correspondent

If you get a 'chill' when speaking the names of Frederic Tudor, Bo Batey and Jesse Womack, it could be deemed natural, for all three names go back to America's second 'ice age.'

America's commercial ice age is not to be confused with North America's continental catastrophic ice age that froze out the dinosaurs millions of years ago.

Tudor, Batey and Womack helped bring America into the more comfortable-living eras of the 19th and 20th centuries as ice peddling merchants.

The late Bo Batey was an ice peddler whose territory blanketed Woodbury in the 1930s-era as an agent for the Crystal Ice & Coal Co.

The ice company was owned for a period of time by the late Dr. J.F. Adams, and later,

by B.F. Downing.

Bo Batey and his mule named Dick were the most visible agents of the ice company located on Water Street when moved from Readyville to the county seat town of Woodbury.

"You could set your watch, you could count on Bo Batey and his mule, Dick, when they'd mosey along, real slow around Courthouse Square, peddling big blocks of ice to merchants and individual homes," accounted 94-year-old Bill Smith, legendary Cannon County businessman.

"Bo would load up his ice wagon each day at the Ice Plant just off Courthouse Square," the retired banker deposited back in time. "Town folks would address the two, Bo and Dick, always as 'here comes Bo and Dick' as they peddled and distributed their blocks of ice."

Blocks of ice ranged in size from 25-

pounds up to 300-pounds.

There was a system maintained by the ice peddling man and his mule. Although Bo and mule Dick's route was focused within Woodbury city limits, the ice company's territory in the 1930s blanketed Cannon County's rural routes too, including Short Mountain, Gassaway, Auburntown, Burt and Bradyville.

"Some of Bo Batey's customers were Woodbury's most influential and prominent people," Smith recalled. "The whole town knew they could trust Bo and Dick to be regular and on time with their deliveries."

The animal named Dick was considered one of Woodbury's smartest mules of his time.

"Bo and Dick hauled blocks of ice, most of the time, weighing 25-, to 50- and 100-

See ICE AGE, page 9



Bo Batey and his horse Dick hauled blocks of ice throughout Woodbury.



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**CANNON
OBITUARIES**

Mary Ann Bly Shrum

Mary Ann Bly Shrum, 83, died Friday, December 7 at River Park Hospital. Services were scheduled for 1 p.m. Monday, December 10 at the Chapel of Woodbury Funeral Home with Bro. Herb Alsup officiating. Burial followed at Pleasant Ridge Cemetery.

Survivors include three sons, Vince Shrum, Curtis Lack and Leonard Shrum, all of Woodbury; grandchildren, Greta Lack, Calvin Lack, Rebecca Shrum, Wesley Shrum and Amy Shrum; and siblings, Charlie Bly of Nashville, Jean Canada of Lebanon, James Bly of Gassaway, Sue Kentner of Hendersonville, Faye Lafavers of Murfreesboro and Eleanor Hughes of Woodbury.

A member of the Church of Christ, she was a homemaker. She was preceded in death by her parents, Joanna Scott Bly and Jeffie Bly; and siblings, Peggy Joyce Bly, Magaline Bly, Robert Bly and A.J. Bly.

For online tributes, www.woodburyfuneralhome.net.

Cannon Courier, December 19, 2012, Woodbury, Tennessee

Quixie Merriman Bogle

Quixie Brown Merriman Bogle, 77, died Friday, December 7 at Baptist Hospital. Services were held at 11 a.m. Monday, December 10 at the Chapel of Woodbury Funeral Home with Bro. Joseph Finch officiating. Burial was at Melton Bogle Cemetery.

A Greenbriar, Tn., resident, she was a Cannon County native.

Survivors include three grandchildren, Ryan Hyde and Adam Hyde, both of Springfield and Sabrina (Henry) Haley of Cedar Hill; three great-grandchildren, Aurora, Gavin and Daphne Haley; and sisters, Christine Todd and Peggy Mingle, both of Woodbury; and Joy Young of Alabama.

A member of Woodlawn Church of Christ, she was a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Lillard and Kirgie Wilcher Merriman; husband, Frank Allen Bogle; daughter, Dorinda Hyde and brother, Tommy Merriman.

For online tributes, www.woodburyfuneralhome.net.

Cannon Courier, December 19, 2012, Woodbury, Tennessee

William Hildreth Fugitt

Mr. William Hildreth Fugitt, 88, of Centertown died December 11, 2012. He was born in Louisa, Kentucky on December 27, 1923. His parents were the late Geyger Fugitt and Ethel Bernice (Belcher) Fugitt. He was also preceded in death by his wife of 64 years, Juanita Frances (Hall) Fugitt and a son, Jonathan Fugitt.

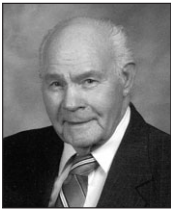
Survivors include his two daughters, Sharon and Paul Michael of Centertown and Melinda Scott of Centertown; brothers, Babe Edward Fugitt of South Gate, MI and Kenneth Fugitt of Philadelphia, PA; one sister, Delores Hope Walters of Ceredo, WV; eight grandchildren, four step-grandchildren, twenty two great grandchildren and several step-great grandchildren.

Mr. Fugitt grew up in the Tri-State area of Kentucky, Ohio and West Virginia. He graduated high school in South Point, Ohio. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy serving in the South Pacific during WWII on the U.S.S. Custer, A.P.A. 40. At an early age Mr. Fugitt dedicated his life to the Lord's service. He graduated the Detroit Bible College and was an active member of the church. He served in all levels of the church from being a minister, assistant pastor, deacon, bus driver and janitor. Mr. Fugitt wanted to serve the church in any way possible to bring glory and honor to God. He is currently a member of the Calvary Baptist Church. He was employed for many years at Sharpels Chemical Company in Wyandotte, Michigan. He also found time to earn his Real Estate License and worked for Century 21. Mr. Fugitt loved music and was blessed with the ability to play guitar, violin and banjo just to name a few. He was known and loved by many family and friends as a storyteller.

Funeral services were Friday, December 14, 2012 at 2 p.m. in the Smith Funeral Home chapel. Tom Fittis officiated. Interment followed in Riverside Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be given to the Gideons International. Contact Smith Funeral Home for details. (615)563-5337 www.smithfuneralhomewoodbury.net

Cannon Courier, December 19, 2012, Woodbury, Tennessee



Annie Rhea Nichols

Graveside services for Annie Rhea Nichols, 93, were held Saturday, December 15 at Cripple Creek Cemetery with Laughlin Youree officiating.

She is survived by her nieces and nephews, Dorothy Reed of Chattanooga, Glen (Lynda) Paschal of Knoxville, Martha (Ken) Cruikshank of Knoxville & Norma (Roger) Lewis of Woodbury and Helen Paschal of Readyville. Several great nieces and nephews also survive.

A member of the Presbyterian Church, she was a retired RN.

She was preceded in death by her parents, James Jessie Nichols & Claudia Youree Nichols; Brother, James Y. Nichols; sister, Rachel Nichols Paschal; 2 nephews, Dan Paschal & Jimmy Nichols.

Woodbury Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Cannon Courier, December 19, 2012, Woodbury, Tennessee

Mrs. Sammie Higgins

Mrs. Sammie (Davenport) Higgins, 100, a native and lifelong resident of Cannon County died December 14, 2012. She was born on July 15, 1912. She was the daughter

of the late Sam and Ida (Richards) Davenport. Also preceding her in death are her husband, Jessie Higgins; daughter, Jean Bise; granddaughter, Pamela Jenice Maxwell; siblings, Lawrence, Ray, Bertha and Elizabeth Davenport, Bessie Mingle, Effie Gribble and Ruby Bragg.

Mrs. Higgins was a member of the Woodbury Church of Christ, homemaker and retired food service worker for the Woodbury School System. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and loving aunt. She had a quiet strength and dignity and will be missed and never forgotten by those whose lives she touched.

Survivors include her daughter and son-in-law, Joyce and Don Alexander; daughter, Margaret Faye Ryan all of Murfreesboro; grandchildren, Donna Miller, Rhonda Chandler, David Hayes and Daryl Alexander; eight great grandchildren; one great great grandchild and sister-in-law, Lou Davis Higgins.

Visitation was held at Smith Funeral Home on Monday, December 17, 2012 from 4-8 p.m. Graveside services were Tuesday, December 18, 2012 at 2p.m. in Riverside Cemetery. Herb Alsup and Carl Witt officiate. Grandsons and nephews served as pallbearers.

Her family is especially grateful to the staff of Woodbury Nursing Center for their care and kindness during her residence there. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Alive Hospice, the Short Mountain Bible Camp or a charity of your choice. Contact Smith Funeral Home for details. (615)563-5337 www.smithfuneralhomewoodbury.net

Cannon Courier, December 19, 2012, Woodbury, Tennessee



Walter Lee Brown

Walter Lee Brown, 64, died Saturday, December 15, 2012 at Alvin C. York Medical Center.

A native of Lewisburg, TN, he was a member of the Church of Christ and a retired disabled Veteran where he served in the Air Force. He was preceded in death by his parents, Walter L. Brown, Sr. and Freida Hart Lane and his stepfather, James (Chick) Thornton.

Survivors include his son, David Lane Brown of Readyville; two sisters, Betty Sullivan and Patty Poe, both of Murfreesboro; mother of his son, Janice Simmons Brown of Woodbury; nieces and nephews.

Graveside services were Tuesday, December 18 at 2:00 p.m. at Evergreen Cemetery.

For online tributes, www.woodburyfuneralhome.net

Cannon Courier, December 19, 2012, Woodbury, Tennessee

Johnny Whittemore

Mr. Johnny Whittemore, 53, died December 6, 2012 after an extended illness. He was born January 19, 1959 in Cannon County. His parents were the late Eldred Whittemore and Della Louise (Gann) Whittemore. He was also preceded in death by brothers, Ronnie Whittemore and David Whittemore.

He is survived by his wife of 27 years, Wendy (Youngblood) Whittemore of Woodbury; sons, Johnny Brian Whittemore of Woodbury, Kyle Whittemore and fiancé, Kristina of Dayton, TN and Justin Odom of Woodbury; a daughter, Emily Whittemore and fiancé Jose Mendoza of Woodbury; brothers, James Whittemore of Colorado, Eddie Whittemore of Crossville, step-brothers, Robert "Beano" Tischer, Frankie Tischer, Gary Tischer and Charles Tischer; step-sisters, Jessica Tischer and Dakota Tischer; two grandchildren Maleah Odom and Montana Davis; he was expecting his third grandchild, Drayden.

Mr. Whittemore was known to be a jack of all trades and a handyman. He was a former employee of Samsonite in Murfreesboro. He told jokes to keep his family and friends laughing. He enjoyed fishing and loved being with his kids and grandkids and teaching them how to play basketball and football.

Private services were held at Smith Funeral Home. A memorial service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to assist the family with expenses.

Contact Smith Funeral Home for details. (615)563-5337 smithfuneralhomewoodbury.net

Cannon Courier, December 19, 2012, Woodbury, Tennessee



For up to date obituary information, go to www.cannoncourier.com

Thank You

Thank you so very much to everyone for your prayers, support, gifts, kind and loving words, food, flowers, generous donations made to the funeral expenses, cards, and for coming to our precious baby Jordan's visitation and funeral.

The love and support from everyone has been overwhelming. We are extremely appreciative and thankful for everything. It has helped us through this very hard, devastating time with the loss of our precious angel, Jordan Thomas. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

During this tragedy, we are reminded of how much we have to be thankful for and to cherish each day we have with our children.

Love, Joel, Jennifer, Joel and Jacob Smith



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Cannon Courier photo

New fire truck is ready and waiting for service

Santa Claus stands beside the city's new fire truck in 1935 with several spectators observing. Those identified are (in no order), Doris Macon, Alf Roach, Litton Gaither, Clarence Junior Gaither, Jack Oliver, Sam Blanks and Ike Bryson. The photo was taken at the Sudden Service Gas Station on West Main Street.

MONUMENTS
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John Kelly Simmons

Jackson and Ella Simmons would like to announce the arrival of their baby brother, John Kelly Simmons. John was born on Saturday, December 8, 2012. He weighed 6 pounds and 15 ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long.

Proud parents are Brian and Melisha Simmons.

Grandparents are Jimmy and Regina Merriman and Drennon and Faye Smithson.



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Christmas Commentary



My Take
MIKE WEST

Merry Christmas, let us say it again and again

gift is our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May you have a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year. "

To me, that sentiment is perfect and touching during these days of political correctness.

It doesn't push aside the beliefs of others. People are entitled to that freedom in America. Hanukkah and Kwanzaa and Bodhi Day (a Buddhist celebration) are worth learning about, and if you are so inspired, worth celebrating.

But that doesn't mean Christians have to surrender.

The Bill of Rights, which some people celebrate during December, provides for freedom of religion. These first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution include the liberties that make America special.

So, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year...

That's what I say and what I believe.

As for Christmas, I can't help but think back to the days of my youth.

Christmas was a great adventure. It was joyful and delightful and so full

of excitement.

The adventure came from the search for beautiful Christmas lights that even led our family to Parthenon in Nashville for the glorious light show provided by the Harvey's Nativity Scene back in the 1950s and 60s.

That didn't surpass the great excitement of going to the family farm near Short Mountain to find a beautiful cedar tree to chop down and mistletoe to shoot out of the tree tops.

Let us not forget the mysterious Christmas Eve knocking at the front window. We would peer out to catch a quick glimpse of Santa Claus, who would disappear in a flash. That sudden visit prompted all sorts of questions.

And perhaps, most of all, I remember the holiday glory at our church and hearing the hymns.

*Silent night, holy night,
Wondrous star, lend your light*

*With the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born!*

To the Editor

Woodbury First Methodist Church to have food giveaway December 29

Thank you so much for helping to make the food distribution on November 10, 2012 a success. Food was provided for over 400 families, with over 300 receiving the full range of food we had. Without your help, we could not have reached so many.

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, the First Methodist Church in Woodbury, located at 502 W. High Street, will be able to offer another Free Food giveaway on Saturday, December 29th beginning at 10:30 a.m. in the parking lot of First Methodist Church.

There will be a tractor trailer full of food to be distributed. Each participant should bring their own box, laundry basket, or container to put the food in. There are no pre-qualifications, everyone is welcome. This will be a "drive-thru" distribution.

Cars should line up on High Street coming up the hill from College Street. Each car will be directed through the parking lot of First Methodist and out through the First Baptist Church parking lot.

For more information, contact the church office at 563-2135.

This is in addition to the four food distributions previously scheduled. The third of these has been scheduled for February 23, 2013. We will send out reminders in advance of the February 23, 2013 distribution. Thank you for your assistance.

ERICA SANBORN
United Methodist Church, Woodbury parishoner

Courier Columnist

Do 'Perfect Christmas trees' really exist?

"Oh, perfect Christmas tree, where are you?"

That was the exciting chant of my father, in search of the "perfect Christmas tree."

The year was a distant 1949, but I recall the snowy day vividly, as if it happened yesterday.

This farm boy's overall galluses had nearly burst with chest-swollen pride when Daddy decided I, at age 5, was old enough to be chosen to go with him in search of the perfect Christmas tree.

It was high drama that tundra-like wintry day, but the significance of the mission helped insulate us from the severe cold as snowflakes drifted silently through the trees.

It was when nearing the woods that Daddy broke out in song: "Oh, perfect Christmas tree, where are you?"

Finally, after what seemed like a lot of walking and talking, we spied our perfect Christmas tree almost at the same time.

"Shhh, Danny boy, do you see it?"

"Where?" I asked, yet to catch the vision.

"Over there," Daddy whispered.

Finally, the perfect tree came into my vision too.

Oh, the beauty of that old cedar still reigns reverently in my boyhood mind's eye.

But, I'm yet to

understand why Daddy and I whispered as we approached the magical tree, as if it was a skittish deer about to bolt out of our vision.

My initial job was to use an old improvised cotton hoe to clear the vines and undergrowth out enough for Daddy Whittle to begin taking mighty strokes with his fine-sharpened chopping axe used to bring down that tree.

The sound, "whack, whack, whack," echoed through the trees as Daddy chopped away.

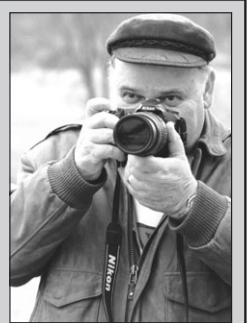
Within minutes, we were toting and dragging that tree back to our farm house.

The promise of Momma Whittle's hot sassafras tea heated on top of our Warm Morning coal stove helped motivate us to get back to the warmth of our farm house.

As soon as we thawed out a bit from the cold, it was time to bring the tree inside.

Older brother and sister had done their assigned duties of rounding up scrap lumber for Daddy to use as the base for our tree that was so high, it scraped the top of our farm house ceiling.

The joy of Christmas 1949 had started the night before, when we popped popcorn. What we didn't eat, we strung on some of Momma's sewing thread, along with discarded



Whittle's Words
Of Wisdom
DAN WHITTLE

pieces of tin foil we'd saved down through the year.

This made for pretty and shiny strings of decoration on our tree. Momma had also saved bright pieces of red cloth to adorn our perfect Christmas tree.

This was before electricity. So, folks in our neck of rural America were yet to have store-bought glowing and sparkling Christmas lights.

Finally, after the finishing touches of carefully placing our homemade ornaments on our tree, it was time to go to bed and sleep on the promise that Santa would come with presents during the night.

Did I mention, that was the first and only "perfect Christmas tree" I've observed in my own blessed cycle of Christmases.

But if I listen close, I can still Daddy's axe echoing in woods as if Christmas 1949 happened last year.

(Editor's note: It was the last Christmas the writer shared with his father, who perished the next year in a grinding car crash.)

Courier Contributor

Heed Christmas humbugs or yule be sorry

Christmas gets more complicated every season.

Earlier this year, for example, there was a work-stoppage at Santa's North Pole's production plant when the elves went on strike. The little fellows claimed St. Nick was running a sweat shop, forcing them to work non-stop to meet the impending Christmas rush.

The half-pint handymen demanded a, uh, "short" break.

Also, they objected to the term "elves." They prefer "size-challenged."

They were joined in the picket line by the Seven Dwarfs, who filed similar labor grievances.

As if that wasn't headache enough for Santa, the U.S. Department of Nosey Nutritionists got on him for being overweight. They said his belt-popping belly that jiggles like a "bowlful of jelly" isn't amusing any more.

There's no mirth in girth. The health nuts say

Santa sets a bad example for a society struggling with a weight problem. They want him to join a fitness spa and shed a few pounds.

They also want kids to stop tempting Santa with cookies left by the chimney on Christmas

Eve. They suggest putting out a few celery stalks and raw carrots.

Next came a complaint from PETA about the reindeer.

PETA said it is cruel to harness the poor deer to a heavy sleigh and force them to fly through the cold winter night and land on icy, slick rooftops.

They are especially incensed over reports of Santa cracking a whip over Donner's derriere.

"How would YOU like to pull a fatso in a sleigh through the freezing cold while he cracks a bullwhip on YOUR buttocks?" PETA asked in a press release.

PETA also said it is unnatural for Rudolph's nose to glow, and would like the Humane Society to look into it.

On top of all that, Santa received a snippy letter from the Department of Sleigh Registration advising him that his sticker has expired and he has to take it through emissions inspection before it can be renewed.

You don't want to get pulled over driving an unregistered sleigh and reeking of eggnog.

There was also the matter of an unpaid speeding ticket Santa got last Christmas Eve as he sailed over Chicago. Santa claimed he speeded up to

dodge the bullets.

Meanwhile back home, a group of Earth-First tree-huggers chained themselves to a stand of cedars to protest cutting down a conifer for Christmas. They call the annual tree-cutting ritual the "Christmas Chainsaw Massacre."

They also protested the abuse of holly, spruce and mistletoe, chanting, "Don't be mean to the green."

The tree-huggers and the PETA people joined hands, the latter carrying placards proclaiming "Don't wear fur" and the others waving signs that said, "Save the Fir."

I hope I can remember everything I'm supposed to do and not do over the holidays: don't offend little people and over-weight people, don't eat treats and sweets, and commiserate with deer-lovers and tree-huggers.

I'd better make a politically-correct Christmas list -- and check it twice.

We CAN still say "Christmas," can't we?



A Shot Of Wry
LARRY WOODY

How To Contact Your Legislators:

State Senator

Mae Beavers

301 6th Avenue North
Suite 7
Legislative Plaza
Nashville, TN 37243
Phone (615) 741-2421
sen.mae.beavers@capitol.tn.gov

State Representative

Mark Pody

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rep.mark.pody@capitol.tn.gov

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Photo provided

Cannon students participate in CMA Country Christmas

Several students from Cannon County participated in the CMA Country Christmas concert at Bridgestone Arena, thanks to Casey Hindman, who has been a talent coordinator for the CMA's for the past 5 years. The concert will air this Thursday night, December 20th, at 8:00 p.m. on ABC. Left to right: Taylor Blanton, Katie Hickman, Fletcher Moore, Jackson Mason, Sarah Hickman and Brady Mason.

Woodbury Methodist Church to have food distribution day December 29

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, the First Methodist Church in Woodbury, located at 502 W. High Street, will be able to offer another Free Food Giveaway on Saturday, December 29th beginning at 10:30 a.m. in the parking lot of First Methodist Church.

There will be a tractor trailer full of food to be distributed. Each participant should bring their own box, laundry basket, or container to put the food in. There are no pre-qualifications, everyone is welcome.

This will be a "drive-thru" distribution. Cars

should line up on High Street coming up the hill from College Street. Each car will be directed through the parking lot of First Methodist and out through

the First Baptist Church parking lot.

For more information, contact the church office at 563-2135.



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Jessica Curtis named 'Caregiver of the Year'

Jessica Curtis has been named "Caregiver of the Year" at Woodbury Nursing Center 2012

Jessica grew up in the Woodland area her parents are the late Eddie Dean Taylor and Betty Faye Hollandsworth. She started working here May of 2001 as a C N A. Jessica worked here for several years and enjoyed caring for the residents. Her best friend Brigitte asked her about going to LPN School with her. They both took the entrance exam and made it through the interview and learned they would be in the same class.

Jessica graduated LPN School in March of 2004. In 2005 she married Kelly Curtis and moved to the Short Mt. Community. They have two beautiful girls Ada and Audrey.

Jessica stated, "I consider it a blessing to be a nurse. I have the honor for caring for your loved ones everyday. The most important thing I learned in nursing school is that above all else a nurse is a patient's advocate and that is how I practice nursing. I always try to put my residents first and always do what is best for them".

READ ALL ABOUT IT

PETTUS READ, Guest Columnist



Cousin Sed comes to Uncle Sid's to stay with postage due

The other day as I pulled in the long gravel driveway of Uncle Sid and Aunt Sadie's farm, the winter wind was blowing to beat the band and the yellow glow of light coming from Aunt Sadie's "Gone With the Wind" hurricane lamp in the window of their white frame house was surely a welcome sight on that dark, cloudy day I made my visit. Things hadn't changed much around the old farmstead, and this time of the year the days required both of my kinfolks to keep close to the home fires.

As I knocked on the back door, I wasn't met by Aunt Sadie wiping her hands on her apron as usual, but instead heard a call from inside telling me to come on in. There, standing at the kitchen table, was Uncle Sid and Aunt Sadie looking inside a medium size box with USPS markings on it. I could see they had just opened the package as the table was littered with packing peanuts. The elderly couple had strange looks on their faces that told me that something quite unusual had just occurred.

I expressed my greetings and made the customary remarks about the weather, but could tell they were not very interested in getting into casual talk. For some reason neither one could take their eyes off the box and I knew I had to find out what it contained. With one simple question of, "What's in the box?" I became a part of a very unusual happening.

Aunt Sadie looked at me from over her glasses and said, "It's Sid's cousin Sed."

Of course, that sort of took me by surprise and I asked another silly question, "He's in the box?"

Uncle Sid now looked at me from over his glasses and said, "Boy, this is a very serious matter."

I knew from the expression on his face that something big was up and this was going to be worth the visit. I pulled out a kitchen chair and prepared for the explanation.



Aunt Sadie was now giving a somewhat sideways grin and began to tell me what was going on. "Your Uncle Sid had a cousin that was a little bit different than most folks," as she began her story. "When electricity first came to these parts he would go out and stand under the transformers for hours. He said they made him feel good, but we just thought he was strange. He was very smart, but just a little different."

Uncle Sid now took a seat and joined in the discussion of Sed. "Sed was sort of like Paul Revere's ride, a little lite in the belfry if you ask me. He enjoyed the farm here but just never fit in, and one day just left to go up north to work," Uncle Sid said. "He said he would come back to stay on the farm for keeps one day, but you just never knew about Sed. We always heard he did real well working at a major electric company up near the Canadian border."

"And then this morning we get a call from the post office lady telling us there is a package there for us with postage due," Aunt Sadie chimed in. "We go down there and pay the postage and bring this package home expecting some shortbread from Sid's cousin up in Michigan. Thelma always sends some this time of the year you know."

I didn't know that, but it added to the story. Uncle Sid was now standing up again and pulling something out of the box to show me. "When we got home and opened

the box, this is what was inside," said Uncle Sid as he pulled a glass urn from the box. "It seems cousin Sed passed away recently and left orders to be cremated, plus to have himself mailed to us. I knew he said he would come back some day to stay on the farm, but not to stay with us forever and especially with postage due. Only Sed would mail himself back to his relatives in a USPS box."

As I stood there looking at the two holding the ashes of cousin Sed among the remains of packing peanuts and a postage due slip, I couldn't hold it back any longer. They too could see my expression and now the three of us broke into laughter. Cousin Sed had returned as he said he would, knowing Uncle Sid and Aunt Sadie would see that he was taken care of. I guess that is what family is all about, we accept you no matter how you arrive, even with postage due.

I went back by their house a few days later to see what the final outcome was for their guest and found they had placed the urn on a special shelf by the fuse box in the utility room. They thought Sed would have enjoyed being next to something electrical.

--Pettus L. Read is editor of Tennessee Home & Farm magazine and Tennessee Farm Bureau News. He may be contacted by e-mail at pread@tffb.com

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Adams Memorial Library News

Everyone at both libraries wants to wish you Happy Holidays! It is hard to believe another year is

almost over, but what a year it has been! The building project is nearing completion and you can begin to look for us on the main floor shortly after the first of the year. We hope you will all enjoy this beautiful new space. We will have some

closures to complete the move back upstairs, retrieve everything from storage and reconnect the public use computers in their new home. We will release those dates as soon as we are sure of them. Please watch our facebook page and website (www.cannoncolibrary.org) for updates.

Both library outlets will be closed for the holidays on December 24th -26th, December 31st, and January 1st.

If you haven't tried it yet, please take a look at the new and improved online catalog for the libraries. You can establish your own online account using your library card number and the password "userpass".

After you enter this word, you will be asked to create a password of your own. That's all it takes. Then you will be able to place holds, renew materials, and check on due dates 24 hours per day.

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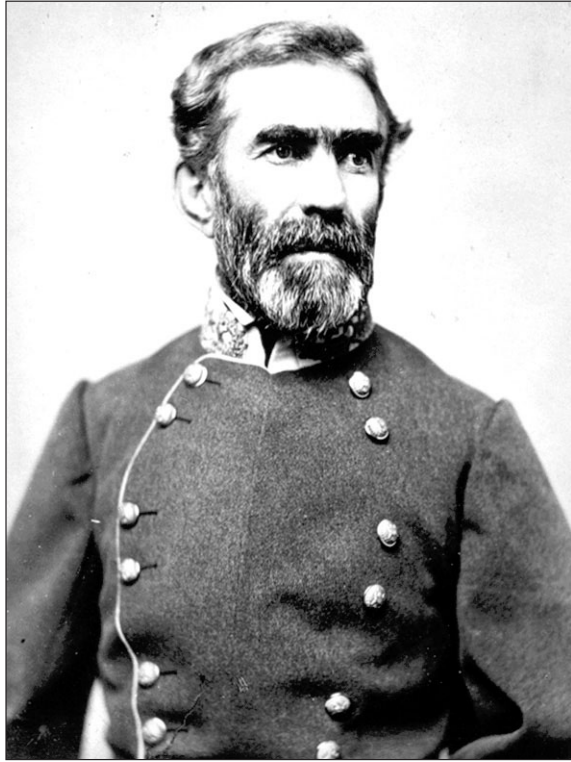
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A day after Christmas, the march to Stones River begins

By MIKE WEST

One day after Christmas 1862, the Federal Army of the Cumberland moved out of Nashville with the intent of attacking the Confederate Army of Tennessee near Murfreesboro.



GEN. BRAXTON BRAGG

The U.S. troops were under the command of Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans. An engineer, Rosecrans was better at organizing than committing troops to battle. While attending West Point where he graduated fifth in his class, Rosecrans roomed with James Longstreet, who, after a stint with the Army of Tennessee, was to become one of Robert E. Lee's lieutenants.

Rosecrans' predecessor, William Buell, had been pulled from command because of his failure to pursue Confederates under the command of Gen. Braxton Bragg after the battle of Perrysville in Kentucky. Rosecrans relieved him of duty on Nov. 11.

It didn't take Rosecrans long to cause General-In-Chief Henry W. Halleck and President Lincoln to lose patience after nearly two months of reorganization.

"If you remain one more week in Nashville, I cannot prevent your removal," Halleck telegraphed Rosecrans.

"I need no other stimulus to make me do my duty than the knowledge of what it is. To threats of removal or the like I must be permitted to say that I am insensible," Rosecrans replied hotly.

Rosecrans' reluctance was understandable in many ways. Both the Union and Confederate armies thought they had settled in for winter following the Two Rivers Campaign and the Battle of Perryville. Both armies had just reorganized, and while "Old Rosey" was beloved by his troops, Bragg was not. There was even a serious division among the Confederate commander's general officers.

Bragg's soldiers, as historian Stanley Horn wrote, had

marched a 1,000 miles, fought a bloody battle, and were now back where they started two months before.

His subordinate, Gen. Kirby Smith, sought and received release from Bragg's command. Bragg had traveled by rail to Richmond to explain his failed invasion of Kentucky to President Jefferson Davis. Bragg blamed the loss on the fighting Bishop, Gen. Leonidas Polk, who was subsequently called to Richmond as well.

It wasn't until Nov. 26, a month before the Battle of Stones River, until Bragg's army was complete and officially dubbed the Army of Tennessee.

Bragg spread his army out in a semi-circle to watch for a Federal approach from several different directions.

Bragg's headquarters was in Murfreesboro with the center of his army under Polk's command. His left flank was stationed near Eagleville and Triune under command of Gen. William Hardee. His right flank was at Readyville under the command of Gen. John McCown.

Confederate picket lines extended within two miles of Union lines near Nashville. Cavalry under the command of Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler patrolled the area between the pickets and the main lines.

On Dec. 7, 1862, Brig. Gen. John Hunt Morgan launched his successful raid at Hartsville. On Dec. 21, Morgan launched another raid into Kentucky. His troops would not be available for the Battle of Stones River.

Similarly, Brig. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest launched a Dec. 11 raid into West Tennessee in an attempt to check Gen. U.S. Grant's advance into Mississippi. Forrest would not return to Middle Tennessee until Jan. 5.

It was an ideal time for a Federal attack. The Union desperately needed a win, especially after Fredericksburg on Dec. 13, 1862. The Federal Army of the Potomac sustained massive casualties in a series of frontal assaults against the entrenched Army of Northern Virginia led by Gen. Robert E. Lee.

Fredericksburg was one of the most lopsided battles of the Civil War and was very demoralizing for the Union cause in the terms of national morale.

But it was an act by President Davis that prompted the Union army to finally move.

Davis, during his visit to Murfreesboro, ordered that Gen. C.L. Stevenson and his division of 10,000 men be dispatched south to help Pemberton in Mississippi. Word of that move seeped to Federal headquarters in Nashville and played a role in the decision to advance.

On Dec. 26, the Federal Army of the Cumberland began its advance.

Divided into three corps, the army took three routes toward Murfreesboro.

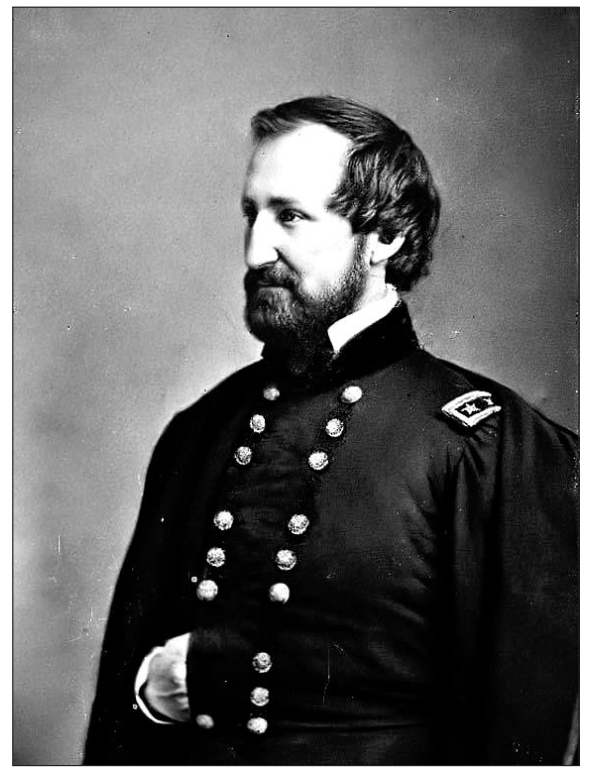
Gen. T.L. Crittenden's corps proceeded directly up the Murfreesboro Pike. Gen. George H. Thomas' corps marched out the Franklin Pike to Brentwood, marching to the crossroads at Nolensville, where they picked up the Murfreesboro Pike. Gen. A.M. McCook's division followed the Nolensville Pike, taking Bole Jack (dirt) Road to Murfreesboro.

Portions of the army passed through Brentwood, Triune, Nolensville, Mechanicsville, La Vergne and Stewartsboro.

As the Army of the Cumberland moved, Brig. Gen. Joseph Wheeler's cavalry began a series of assaults designed to slow the Union advance, allowing Bragg to pull his forces into a tight line of battle outside Murfreesboro.

A relative youngster, Wheeler was only 26 when placed in command of the Army of Tennessee's cavalry. Both Forrest and Morgan were his subordinates.

Wheeler led his cavalry completely around the Union



MAJ. GEN. WILLIAM S. ROSECRANS

army engaging two of Thomas's brigades, in the process.

During the night of the Dec. 29, Wheeler, who had moved from the left to the right of Murfreesboro, advancing by the Lebanon and Jefferson Pikes, gained the rear of Rosecrans's army and attacked Starkweather's brigade at Jefferson, at daylight Dec. 30.

From Jefferson, Wheeler proceeded toward La Vergne, picking up stragglers and a small forage train, and arrived at La Vergne about noon that same day. There he captured the immense supply trains of McCook's corps. About 700 prisoners were taken and a million dollars worth of property seized or destroyed.

"Early on the morning of the 31st Colonel M. B. Walker's Union brigade (of Fry's division Thomas's corps), on its night march from Nolensville to Stewartsboro, arrived within two and a half miles of La Vergne, and advanced at once to the scene of devastation. The turnpike, as far as the eye could reach, was filled with burning wagons. The country was over spread with disarmed men, broken-down horses and mules. The streets were covered with empty valises and trunks, knapsacks, broken guns, and all the indescribable debris of a captured and rifled army train," wrote Lt. Col. G.C. Kniffin of Crittenden's staff.

Wheeler's men captured supply trains at Rock Springs and Nolensville as well.

"At 2 o'clock on the morning of the 31st Wheeler came up bright and smiling upon the left flank of the Confederate army in front of Murfreesboro, having made the entire circuit of Rosecrans's army in 48 hours, leaving miles of road strewn with burning wagons and army supplies, remounting a portion of his cavalry, and bringing back to camp a sufficient number of minie-rifles and accouterments to arm a brigade," Kniffin reported.

By the evening of Dec. 30, Rosecrans had his army in position facing the Confederates. They slept fitfully on the cold ground soaked by a cold rain. A great battle would begin tomorrow.

Dr. William (Bill) Jennings assumes command of Squadron 279

By: COLONEL JAME E. STONE

Dr. William (Bill) Jennings is the Squadron Commander of the newly chartered Sons of the American Legion Post 279, Squadron 279.

Squadron Commander Jennings assumes command of the thirty member Squadron, of which 28 are charter members.

The first meeting of the Squadron was on Thursday, December 13, 2012. During this meeting Squadron Officers elected were: Commander-Dr. William (Bill) Jennings; Adjutant-Daniel Hass;

Finance Director-James E. (Butch) Stone; Sergeant-Of-Arms-Donnie Swann; the position of Chaplain-an appointed position will be filled at the January meeting.

The Sons of Squadron 279 and the members of the Auxiliary are separate organizations, and function separately. These two organizations support the American Legion Post 279, all working as one dynamic team, to support our Veterans, our youth, and our community.

Commander Jennings stated that it was a great honor to be selected as the

first Commander of Squadron 279. He emphasized

that this was a great way for the sons to honor the military service of their fathers and grandfathers.

His father Marvin Jennings served in World War II, as a crew member on a B-17, with the 8th United States Army Air Corps, later 8th United States Air

Force. His father was on a mission to ferry B-17 aircraft across the Atlantic to Europe. His B-17 crashed into the top of a mountain in IceLand. The crew survived the crash and survived the sub-zero

weather for over a week before they were rescued by the men from a distant and remote village. I remember that it took

five years for me to convince Marvin Jennings to tell this amazing story of survival to the students at our Cannon County High School Veterans Day Program. Being an Aviator myself, I can attest that the odds of surviving an airplane crash, and then to survive for over a week in sub-zero weather before being rescued, is about as low as you can get. Very seldom does anyone survive the crash alone, and very seldom does

anyone survive over a week in sub-zero weather. I also remember that Robert (Bob) Fuller, another Woodbury man, who was serving in the United States Army as a MP (Military Policeman) in Greenland

got word of the crash and visited Marvin in the Hospital while recovering. Commander Bobby Ferrell, American Legion Post 279, congratulated Commander Bill Jennings on assuming his new

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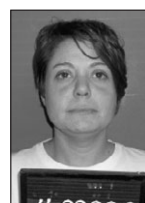
CANNON CRIME & COURTS

Court Action

Many charged with violation of probation

Judge Susan Melton presided over General Sessions Court on Tuesday, December 11. Some of the results of the various cases included:

Jason Wayne Arnold's charge of harassment was retired for 11 months 29 days. He was ordered to pay the litigation tax.



Ronica Renee Arnold's charge of passing a worthless check was retired for 30 days. She was ordered to pay restitution and the litigation tax.

Matthew Atchely Bouldin pled guilty to violating the move over law. He was fined \$100.00 plus the costs.

William Kevin Bryant pled guilty to 2 counts of driving on a suspended license. In each count he was sentenced to 11 months 29 days in jail. Those sentences were suspended upon equal time on probation, losing his license, paying a \$50.00 fine and the costs.

Randall Ewing Council agreed to the violation of his probation. He was ordered to serve his original sentence of 11 months 29 days.

Michael Daniel Dilts' charge of violation of an order of protection was retired for 11 months 29 days. He was ordered to pay the litigation tax.

William H. Drake, Jr. agreed to the violation of his probation. He was ordered to serve his original sentence of 6 months.

Anthony Quinn Epperson, Jr. agreed to the violation of his probation. He was ordered to serve 45 days and his probation was extended 10 months 29 days.

Anthony Randall Gentry pled guilty to driving without a license. He was sentenced to 30 days in jail. That sentence was suspended upon equal time on probation, paying a \$2.00 fine and the costs.

Timmy Harvey George agreed to the violation of his probation. He was ordered to serve his original sentence.

Kimberly Lynne Markum pled guilty to driving without a license. She was sentenced to 30 days in jail. That sentence was suspended upon equal time on probation, paying a \$2.00 fine and the costs.

Corey Scott McNeese pled guilty to 2 counts of driving on a suspended license. In each count he was sentenced to 11 months 29 days in jail. Those sentences were partially suspended upon serving 9 months, equal time on probation, and paying the costs.

Stephanie Michelle Mooneyham agreed to the violation of her probation. She was ordered to serve 21 days and her probation was extended 11 months 29 days. In another case Mooneyham pled guilty to possession of a schedule III drug. She was sentenced to 11 months 29 days in jail. That sentence was partially suspended upon equal time on probation, paying a \$750.00 fine and the costs.

Jimmy Lee Bly was arrested for failure to register as a sex offender charges. Bly was arrested by Murfreesboro Police and transported to the Cannon County Sheriff's Department where he was charged.

Misty Carol Pickett (Fults) was charged with failure to appear on a violation of probation charge.

Eric Burton was charged with assault on

Jon Paul Nelson pled guilty to criminal trespass. He was sentenced to 30 days in jail. That sentence was suspended upon equal time on probation, paying a \$25.00 fine and the costs.

Justin Patrick Richardson agreed to the violation of his probation. He was ordered to serve 43 days and his probation was extended 34 months 15 days.

Donald Carl Southers pled guilty to driving while license revoked 2nd offense. He was sentenced to 11 months 29 days in jail. That sentence was partially suspended upon serving 45 days, equal time on probation, losing his license, paying a \$500.00 fine and the costs.

John Kevin Twilla pled guilty to reckless endangerment. He was sentenced to 11 months 29 days in jail. That sentence was partially suspended upon serving 5 days equal time on probation, paying a fine and the costs. In another case Twilla pled guilty to violating the implied consent law. He was ordered to lose his license for 1 year and pay the costs.

Tequila Miller pled guilty to harassment. She was sentenced to 11 months 29 days in jail. That sentence was partially suspended upon serving 5 days, equal time on probation, and paying the costs.

Nov. 29th in the booking room of the Cannon County Jail.

Brandy Paull faces violation of probation charges.

Cory Wade Foster was served with warrants for violation of probation, amended violation of probation and a capias for failure to appear.

Robert Goff was charged with failure of

Cannon County Sheriff's Department



Beverly Adamson was charged with introduction of contraband into a penal institution following a search at Cannon County Jail. A plastic bag containing multiple prescription pills was discovered on her person by jail personnel.

Steven Underwood was charged with violation of an order of protection following a verbal domestic call on Pleasant Ridge Road.



Corey McNeese



Stephanie Mooneyham



Justin Richardson



John Kevin Twilla



Tequila Miller



Brandy Paull

Auburntown News

BY ANNA PATRICK

Sympathy is extended to the loved ones of Homer McBroom who passed away recently following a lengthy illness. It was another Cracker Barrel lunch for Robbie Owen, Ruth Davenport,

and Wilma Harris when they treated Betty Thomas to an early birthday treat Monday.

Then Sunday it was a dinner theater at the Arts Center for Joyce and Brad Leach, Betty Thomas, Robbie Owen, Stefanie, Samantha and Madison Gaither.

Congratulations to the Lady Knights who brought home the championship trophy from the recent Cancer Tournament. They met the Short Mt. Lady Bears in the semi-finals winning this game to put them in the finals against the Woodland Lady Warriors. It was a tight game even going into overtime. However, the Ladies of Auburn held on for the victory.

Samantha Gaither turns

14 on the 19th. It is also the day Danny Jackson and Helen Fults celebrate. Jordan Blackburn and McKenzie Turney add a year on the 21st. The 23rd is when Velma Turner turns 72 and Nell Summar and Sarah Hackney celebrate the day 'Ol Saint Nick makes his rounds. Happy birthday to all of you.

It's the 57th year the 19th for Billy and Peggy King. The 21st is another anniversary to Nell and Gordon Summar. Happy anniversary to both couples.

Just in case it gets really busy here and the "Courier" won't be out before Christmas, P-pa and I want to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas. Remember the celebration is really a birthday of our Lord and Savior.

Every day we spend without learning something is a day lost.

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Ivy Bluff News

BY BONNIE STACY

My sympathy to the families of Mattie Gannon and Doris Powell who passed away last week.

Steve Nichols visited with his aunt and uncle Elizabeth and Ben Hartsfield one day last week.

Paul Churchwell and his band played at Autumn Oak Assisted Living in Manchester on Thursday and at Manchester Senior Center on Friday. Paul and his wife Shelby went to his sister's, Barbara Kaelin's home in McMinnville on Saturday for a get-together. All enjoyed music, food and card playing and just being together.

June Duckett from Pochontas passed away last week. She was known by many in this county. My sympathy to her family and friends.

Every day we spend without learning something is a day lost.

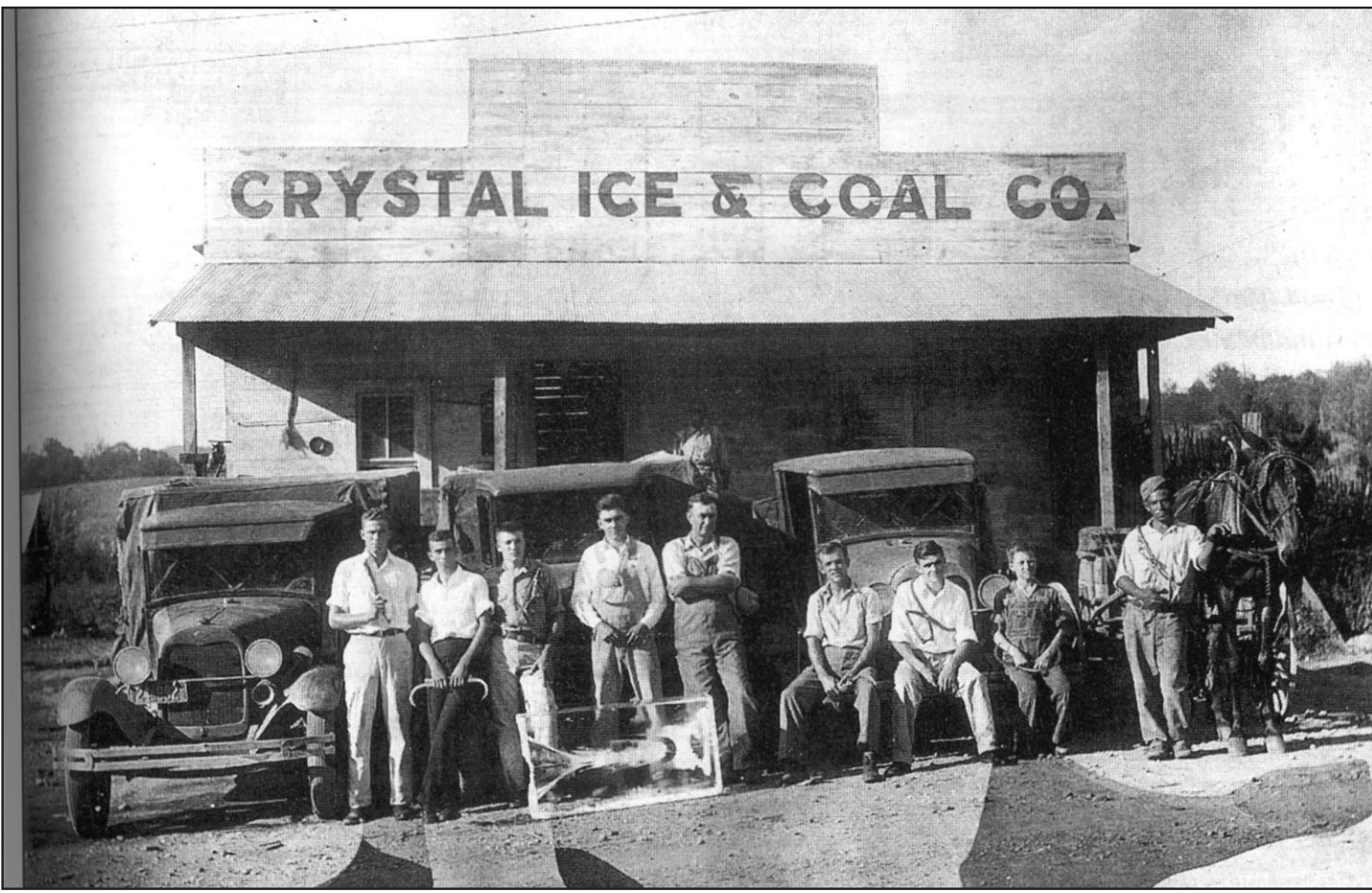
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Norman Rockwell's America, ©2012 Curated and organized by the National Museum of American Illustration, Newport, RI. Saturday Evening Post cover image ©SEPS: www.curtispublishing.com. Norman Rockwell (1894-1978), Volunteer Fireman, 1931, oil on canvas



These men and mule comprised the "work force" at Woodbury's Crystal Ice & Coal Company, circa 1931. They are, from left, Ralph Adams, Duby Conley, Robert Adams, Fred Adams, Oscar Cook, Henry Bratten, Carl Adams, Frank Adams, and Bo Batey and his mule Dick. (Photo courtesy of Bill Smith)

Election panel ok's D. Mankin

Cannon County Election Commissioners voted to keep Dorinda Mankin as Administrator of Elections until April 2013.

Commissioners tabled a motion calling for reinstatement of former administrator Stan Dobson at Monday's (Dec. 9) meeting.

Mankin served as interim administrator during the recent Presidential election. She was named to the interim post last July by a 4-0 vote of the Election Commission. At that point, she had three years of experience as Dobson's assistant.

Dobson was appointed Administrator of Elections in 2009 after the Republican Party assumed control of the Tennessee Legislature in 2008 and replaced several Democratic Party-controlled county election commissions with Republican majorities. Dobson took over for long-term Administrator Mary Lynn Bush.

County election commission members are appointed by the state election commission.

According to state law under Tennessee Code Annotated, "The state election commission shall appoint, on the first Monday in April of each odd-numbered year, five election commissioners for each county, for terms of two years and until their successors are appointed and qualified."

State code calls for three members of the commission to be members of the majority party and two shall be members of the minority party.

ICE AGE---

pounds throughout the community," Smith added. "And the mule somehow knew to stop on his own at each individual home or business, which was before electricity and refrigerators. "Bo supplied each ice customer with a placard, that would hang somewhere visible from the street to the wagon," noted Smith. "The placard would indicate to the ice man whether to leave 25-pound blocks or 100-pound blocks of ice ... being able to see the placard from the wagon, saved ol' Bo from making more than one trip up and down off his peddling wagon.

"And Bo had to be mighty strong, to lift those heavy blocks of ice, with his big set of ice tongs," Smith accounted.

Lifelong Cannon resident Sue Armstrong Maxwell recalls her parents and grandparents talking about buying ice from Bo, and about Bo's smart mule.

"And I'm old enough to recall Frank Adams making his daily milk deliveries, in a metal crate in Woodbury," Mrs. Maxwell noted. "I still have some of deliveryman Frank Adams milk bottles, that came capped with cardboard pull-outs. I've always loved history."

The late Jesse Womack was Rutherford County's last working "ice man."

"As a teenager, my

morning duty at Dad's (the late Howard Penuel) auto repair shop, was to drive our old red truck to the ice plant, and buy a 50-pound block of ice to put in our improvised drinking fountain," recalled Lascassas resident Hooper Penuel.

"We'd put the ice inside the drinking fountain, to have a cold supply of drinking water at the shop, which was a big treat in that pre-air conditioning-era (early to mid-1950s)," added Penuel. "I recall paying 50 cents each morning to Jesse "Red" Womack, who turned out to be Murfreesboro's last active ice man. I believe we paid about a penny a pound for our ice from Mr. Jesse."

Lifelong Murfreesboro resident John Hood also recalls Murfreesboro's last "ice man."

"Mr. Jesse Womack also worked at the Coca-Cola bottling plant across Broad Street, a short distance away from his home and ice house," noted Hood, a retired Murfreesboro radio newsman, banker and state legislator. "I recall many construction crews would make use of his big blocks of ice, particularly during hot summer months."

Frederic Tudor became America's first internationally-known ice merchant.

According to Uncle John's 19th edition of "Curiously Compelling, Bathroom Reader," Boston resident

Tudor determined on an 1800s trip to the Caribbean, "that shipping ice from Boston to the Bahamas could be very profitable."

"By 1816, the Tudor Ice Company dominated the ice trade to Cuba and the Caribbean," Uncle John's Bathroom Reader confirmed.

Early settlers from Europe seemed to have a fixation on ice.

"One of the first things colonists at Jamestown did was build pits for the ice they cut from winter ponds," Uncle John's Reader detailed. "In parts of North America, like Maine, the ice-harvesting season could last until March."

Battle of Stones River to stage 150th anniversary

Events on Dec. 22 thru New Year's

Stones River National Battlefield park rangers and volunteers will present a variety of programs to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Stones River.

From Dec. 31, 1862 to Jan. 2, 1863, more than 81,000 soldiers struggled for control of Middle Tennessee in the fields and forests near Murfreesboro. The costly Union victory inflicted nearly 24,000 casualties on the opposing armies and had profound military, political and social consequences.

Commemoration programs begin with a ranger led bus tour to key points of the Stones River Campaign.

The tour is from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Dec. 22 beginning at visitor center with stops at Nolensville, Triune, La Vergne and other locations where these historical events unfolded. This tour will give participants a chance to understand how the movements of the armies onto the battlefield shaped the final conflict.

Tickets are \$25 which includes a boxed lunch. Reservations are required and must be made by Dec. 10.

In addition, the park will host numerous ranger led talks, walks and caravan tours focusing on the various topics and events of the Stones River Campaign 150 years ago Dec. 26 - Jan. 2, 2013.

Program topics include Stones River Stories, Living Under the Gun, The Slaughter Pen, Hell's Half Acre, The Eye of the Storm,

Mr. Lincoln's Proclamation, a living history program presented by nearly 300 volunteers with infantry demonstrations, cannon firings and interpretive camps.

Activities are not limited to adults, young visitors can gather at the family activity tent from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Dec. 29-30 and complete activities to earn a special 150th Anniversary Junior Ranger badge.

To make reservations, call 615-893-9501 or e-mail stri_information@nps.gov. For more information and detailed schedules, visit www.nps.gov/stri.

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BANKER---

the bank's entrance.

Banker Bill Smith met her at the front door on that first day of her banking career. Frank Adams was bank president in those days.

"A lot of people came through the bank's doors...oodles of them. I've met lots of people, customers, whom I love. There have been great co-workers too," she said.

During those 48 years, there have been only five bank presidents beginning with Adams and Bill Smith, followed by Steve Smith, Debbie Vaughn and Eddie Sikes. "They were all good and wonderful to work for," Virginia said.

"I'm going to miss the people and the everyday customers," she confessed.

Her co-workers, like Sandra Walker, are among those who will miss Mrs. Campbell the most.

"She always cares about her customers and has been a very good friend over the years," Mrs. Walker said. "She will be greatly missed by all."

Mrs. Campbell plans to keep busy, but doesn't have any specific plans except spending time with her children and grandchildren.

Her children are Amy



Virginia Campbell is retiring from Regions Bank after a career of 48 years. Bank customers can say goodbye to Virginia from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Dec. 31.

Campbell, Lori Campbell and Alan Campbell. She has six grandchildren, Jessica, Olivia, Preston, Jacob, Kayla and Grace.

And she intends to spend time with her three sisters, including taking some day trips. "We never had time to

do that before," she said.

Catching up on her reading is important too along with getting some leisurely yard work done as well.

"Getting out of the routine is going to be hard, but I will do Ok," she said.

NEW AG---

finished second for best campaign skit. West Side student Jake Parrish finished third in campaign speech and West Side School was third in campaign skit.

The Cannon County Board of Education also was presented results of the collaborative conferencing by the Cannon County Education Association. The Board must elect eight members to the management team. The Board elected three members and decided to allow Director Parker to

appoint the remaining five. Board members Bruce Daniel and Nathan Sanders will serve, along with Connie Foster of the Central Office.

The Board unanimously agreed to allow Woodbury Grammar School to apply for a \$10,000 grant from Nissan; and approved a Memorandum of Understanding with Laura Kaney to provide mental health counseling for students with traditional insurance.

The Board also approved \$500 for supplies necessary to assist the Cannon County Sheriff's Department for work being done on

recently purchased land.

The next Board Meeting Workshop will be at the Central Office, Jan. 8, 2013, at 6 p.m. The next regular Board Meeting will be Jan. 10, 2013, at 6 p.m. at Woodbury Grammar School.

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For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
John 3:16

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For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: It is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast.
Ephesians 2:8-9

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FEATURES FROM THE BIBLE

TRUTH IN SCRIPTURE

The Shunammite's Son Restored to Life II Kings 4

One day Elisha went to Shunem. There he met a well-to-do woman and she urged him to stay for a meal. He did and whenever he came by, he would stop at her house and eat. One day the woman suggested to her husband that since Elisha came often, and she knew him to be a holy man, that they should build him a room to stay in when he was in Shunem. One day Elisha asked his servant to ask the woman what he could do for her in return for her favor to him. Learning that she had no son and that her husband was old Elisha promised her that she would have a son the next year.

The next year she gave birth to a son, just as Elisha had told her. One day the boy went out to his father, who was with the reapers. He developed a severe headache and soon died. The woman was devastated, she placed the boy's body on the bed of the man of God and then went for Elisha. She insisted that Elisha go to her house. At the house Elisha went in, shut the door and prayed to the LORD. Then he got on the bed and lay upon the boy, mouth to mouth, eyes to eyes, hands to hands. As he stretched himself out upon him, the boy's body grew warm. Elisha then walked back and forth in the room and then got on the bed and stretched out upon him once more. The boy sneezed seven times and opened his eyes. Elisha then presented the boy, alive, to his mother.



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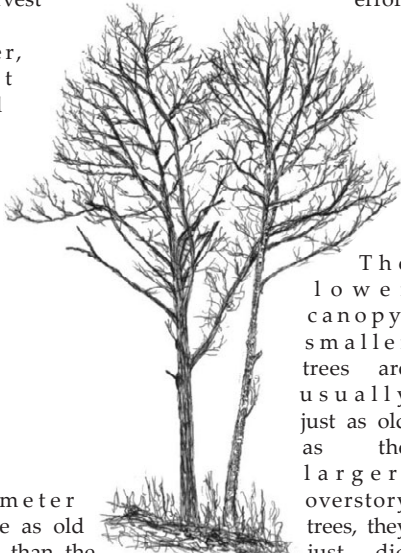
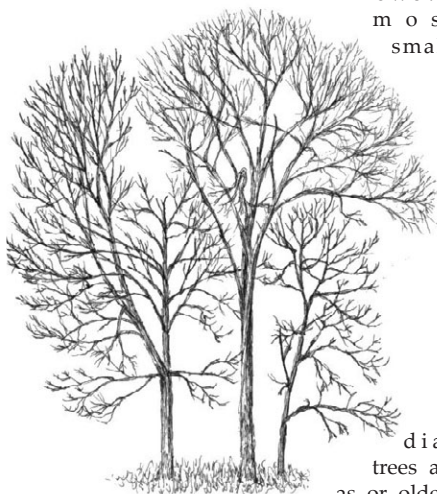
Big trees, little trees - Is there always a correlation with age?

Big trees are usually older than smaller trees. Although there is some logic to this statement, the premise is not necessarily true.

Most hardwood trees regenerate from a

If you have these conditions, the overstory should be harvested, releasing these younger trees, taking care not to damage these smaller trees during the harvest operation.

However, most small



The lower canopy, smaller trees are usually just as old as the larger, overstory trees, they just did not have a

disturbance creating even-aged stands. These disturbances could be acts of nature such as tornados, windstorms, fires, or catastrophic pest outbreaks or human-caused disturbances such as timber harvesting. Like most agronomic crops, most trees grow best in full sunlight.

Different species of trees grow at different rates. Fast growers differentiate (spread their crown) above the slower growers, occupying growing space and most of the sunlight shading the slower growers. The shaded trees persist in the lower canopy. Crowns are sparse and growth is minimal. These trees are not vigorous and many succumb. They are the same age as the faster-growing trees having regenerated at the same time, but the overstory inhibits them.

Popular sentiment is that the small trees in the lower canopy when released will become the large trees of tomorrow. This assumption has been perpetuated in the diameter-limit harvests that have led to what we call high-grading today. The largest and the best trees are harvested leaving the smaller, inferior trees to perpetuate the next stand. In reality, the trees being released are the same age as those being cut. The small, released trees did not have a chance to prosper in competition with the faster-growing, overstory trees. These released trees are incapable of continued growth with their small spindly crowns.

Research on overtopped white oak trees on the Cumberland Plateau illustrates this point. Thirty-year growth data after a harvest of the largest trees shows that the remaining lower canopy trees were not an asset worth taking into the future. Height, diameter, and volume growth was minimal. A cycle of repeated high-grade harvests resulted in the development of a low-quality forest.

With an increment borer or by simply cutting a few trees and counting the rings, the ages of these smaller trees can be determined. If the trees are truly younger, a previous harvest or disturbance created wide enough openings to allow these trees to regenerate and grow without being totally inhibited by the larger, adjacent trees. The crowns of these younger trees should be thrifty (not spindly) with a string terminal leader and a balanced crown. These trees are capable of responding to a release treatment. You will need 40 to 60 well-distributed, younger trees per acre to have enough crop trees in the next stand.

adding value to the stand.

The belief that larger trees should be cut and that the smaller trees will be released to become future crop trees can be a serious error.

Two white oaks trees of similar diameters from adjacent sites. The 60-year old tree grew in the shade of larger, overstory trees. The tree is old, and slow-growing that did not have an opportunity to grow in full sunlight. If left behind after a harvest, it will block the sunlight and slow down the growth of the next generation. The 11 year-old tree is a stump sprout from a clearcut. This tree was never shaded by larger trees and has already reached the diameter of the older tree.

Two white oaks trees of similar diameters from adjacent sites. The 60-year old tree grew in the shade of larger, overstory trees. The tree is old, and slow-growing that did not have an opportunity to grow in full sunlight. If left behind after a harvest, it will block the sunlight and slow down the growth of the next generation. The 11 year-old tree is a stump sprout from a clearcut. This tree was never shaded by larger trees and has already reached the diameter of the older tree.

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CARLA Y. BUSH, MVTE

UT Extension, Cannon County



Tips to avoid weight gain during the holiday season

If you're a typical American, you'll weigh one pound more on January 2, 2013 than you did November 21, 2012. On average, we gain a pound during the holiday season when we come face-to-face with many desserts, candies and treats. One pound doesn't sound like a big deal, but what if you don't lose that pound? Or the one you gained last year or the one you'll gain next year, and on and on?

"Holiday weight gain accumulated over a lifetime can lead to obesity. A pound a year for thirty years is thirty extra pounds," says Dr. Betty Greer, a Family & Consumer Sciences expert with University of Tennessee Extension.

Obesity rates in Tennessee have actually dropped slightly in recent years, but still, nearly one-third of our population is obese, and a great many more people are overweight. Greer believes holiday eating - and people being stuck indoors in winter with little opportunity to exercise - contributes to the obesity rate.

Greer is among the UT Extension experts offering advice this holiday season about healthy eating and avoiding weight gain. For starters, Greer says make better food choices. That's not easy to do with so many sugary treats and goodies around, but there are filling alternatives that can be tasty. "One tip is to eat a variety of fruits and vegetables daily. Fruits and vegetables typically don't contain a lot of calories unless prepared with added fat or sugar," Greer says.

UT Extension works with the Tennessee Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics in providing nutritional information to the people of our state. Academy dietitian Marilyn Holmes adds to Greer's advice about holiday food choices. "Choose red, orange and dark-green vegetables like tomatoes, sweet potatoes and broccoli along with other vegetables for your meals," Holmes says. "Limit fat and sugar during food preparation to avoid extra calories."

Greer says it might be okay to have a treat or two here and there during the holidays if people would just stay or become more active. Exercise can take many forms, she says. "Find fun ways to stay active with family and friends such as dancing to your favorite holiday music or organizing activities like scavenger hunts and walks. If already in the routine of exercising regularly, don't take a break just because it's the holidays. In fact, you might add a few extra minutes to your workout this time of year."

A common New Year's resolution is to start exercising, but Greer says why postpone that goal? "Today is a great day to become more active," she says. "Exercise is a priority no matter how hectic the season feels."

Other tips from Greer include:

Don't go to holiday parties hungry. Eat something healthy before the party to help resist overeating sweets.

Eat more low-calorie foods. These foods are also typically more filling, helping you avoid a sugar craving.

If good with the host,



bring a low-calorie dish to a party. This guarantees at least one "safe" food choice.

Control your portions. Moderation is a key with sweets, but it's also important with all foods, for that matter.

Don't "hang out" by the table or in the kitchen. Avoidance is a good strategy to prevent overeating. If you're not around it, you can't eat it.

Limit alcohol consumption. Alcohol increases your appetite and lowers your inhibitions, which could make you susceptible to unhealthy eating. If you do drink alcohol, also drink water to avoid dehydration.

Practice using substitute recipes. Try the following lower fat recipe substitutes: Instead of one whole egg, use two egg whites. Instead of regular sour cream, use low-fat plain yogurt or low-fat sour cream. Instead of whole milk, use skim or 1 or 2% milk. Ice cream can be replaced by frozen yogurt, and cheeses come in low-fat varieties as well.

Put things in perspective: Enjoy the holidays by centering your entertainment around non-food events like watching movies, ice skating or touring holiday displays.

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Cannon County Commission Meeting Schedule 2013
Pursuant to TCA Code: 8-44-103 notice of public meetings concerning the Cannon County Commission schedule for the fiscal 2013 year will be as follows.

| Date: | Time: |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Saturday, January 19, 2013 | 10:00 A.M. |
| Tuesday, February 12 | 6:00 P.M. |
| Tuesday, March 12 | 6:00 P.M. |
| Saturday, April 13 | 10:00 A.M. |
| Tuesday, May 14 | 6:00 P.M. |
| Tuesday, June 11 | 6:00 P.M. |
| Saturday, July 13 | 10:00 A.M. |
| Tuesday, August 13 | 6:00 P.M. |
| Tuesday, September 10 | 6:00 P.M. |
| Saturday, October 19 | 10:00 A.M. |
| Tuesday, November 12 | 6:00 P.M. |
| Tuesday, December 10 | 6:00 P.M. |

Saturday's meetings are the second Saturday after the first Monday of the month.
Monthly meetings are the second Tuesday of the month.

All meetings will be held at the Cannon County Courthouse.
The public is invited and encouraged to attend all meetings.

BOB STOETZEL
Chairman of the Commission

CLIP AND SAVE



PUBLIC NOTICES



SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE

Sale at public auction will be on **January 8, 2013 at 10:00AM local time, at the north door, Cannon County Courthouse, Woodbury, Tennessee**, conducted by Shapiro & Kirsch, LLP Substitute Trustee, pursuant to Deed of Trust executed by **LEAH MARIE BARRETT AND HUSBAND, SCOTT R. BARRETT**, to Matt B. Murfree, Trustee, on March 28, 2007 at Record Book 97, Page 1; all of record in the Cannon County Register's Office.

Owner of Debt: JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association

The following real estate located in Cannon County, Tennessee, will be sold to the highest call bidder subject to all unpaid taxes, prior liens and encumbrances of record:

Described property located in Cannon County, Tennessee, to wit:

Being all of Lot Number 11 in River View Estates Subdivision, according to plat and survey of same appearing of record in Plat Book 1, Page 114, of the Register's Office of Cannon County, Tennessee, to which plat reference is hereby made for more complete details as to location and description of said lot.

Street Address: 185 Riverview Drive, Woodbury, Tennessee 37190

Parcel Number: 038N-A-012.00

Current Owner(s) of Property: Scott R. Barrett and wife, Leah M. Barrett

The street address of the above described property is believed to be 185 Riverview Drive, Woodbury, Tennessee 37190, but such address is not part of the legal description of the property sold herein and in the event of any discrepancy, the legal description referenced herein shall control.

SALE IS SUBJECT TO TENANT(S) RIGHTS IN POSSESSION.

If applicable, the notice requirements of T.C.A. 35-5-117 have been met.

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

If the highest bidder cannot pay the bid within twenty-four (24) hours of the sale, the next highest bidder, at their highest bid, will be deemed the successful bidder.

This property is being sold with the express reservation that the sale is subject to confirmation by the lender or trustee. This sale may be rescinded at any time.

Shapiro & Kirsch, LLP
Substitute Trustee
www.kirschattorneys.com
Law Office of Shapiro & Kirsch, LLP

555 Perkins Road
Extended, Second Floor
Memphis, TN 38117
Phone (901)767-5566
Fax (901)761-5690
File No. 12-042578
3t-Dec. 5, 12, 19

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

WHEREAS, default has occurred in the performance of the covenants, terms, and conditions of a Deed of Trust Note dated March 30, 2007, and the Deed of Trust of even date securing the same, recorded April 9, 2007, at Book 97, Page 268 in Office of the Register of Deeds for Cannon County, Tennessee, executed by **BRANDI L. LEE A/K/A LEIGH JACOBS**, conveying certain property therein described to Mary Frances Rudy as Trustee for Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. acting as a separate corporation solely as nominee for Franklin American Mortgage Company and Franklin American Mortgage Company's successors and assigns; and the undersigned, Wilson & Associates, P.L.L.C., having been appointed Successor Trustee.

NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that

the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable; and that an agent of Wilson & Associates, P.L.L.C., as Successor Trustee, by virtue of the power, duty, and authority vested in and imposed upon said Successor Trustee will, on **January 4, 2013 on or about 3:45 P.M., at the Cannon County Courthouse, Woodbury, Tennessee**, offer for sale certain property hereinafter described to the highest bidder FOR CASH, free from the statutory right of redemption, homestead, dower, and all other exemptions which are expressly waived in the Deed of Trust, said property being real estate situated in Cannon County, Tennessee, and being more particularly described as follows:

Land in Cannon County, State of Tennessee, described as follows: Tract Number 1: beginning on a point in the center line of the Hills Creek Road, which point is 619.08 feet from the South margin of U.S. Highway 70 South; running thence South 82 degrees 4.3 minutes East, 191 feet to a point; running thence in a Southerly direction 72 feet to an iron pin; running thence in a Westerly direction 181 feet to a point in the center line of the Hills Creek Road; running thence in a Northerly direction with the center line of the Hills Creek Road, 85 feet to an iron pin, the point of beginning. Tract number 2: beginning at a point 192 feet East of the Center Hills Creek Road East of lands of Robert St. Clair; running thence about South 72 feet; thence about East 197 feet; thence about North 56 feet; thence about West with Jones' line 197 feet to the point of beginning, containing .3 acres more or less.

ALSO KNOWN AS: 141 Hill Creek Road, Woodbury, Tennessee 37190

The HB 3588 letter was mailed to the borrower(s) pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated 35-5-117. This sale is subject to all matters shown on any

applicable recorded plat; any unpaid taxes; any restrictive covenants, easements, or setback lines that may be applicable; any statutory rights of redemption of any governmental agency, state or federal; any prior liens or encumbrances as well as any priority created by a fixture filing; and to any matter that an accurate survey of the premises might disclose. In addition, the following parties may claim an interest in the above-referenced property: Brandi L. Lee a/k/a Leigh Jacobs; Daniel Jacobs; Daniel Jacobs

The sale held pursuant to this Notice may be rescinded at the Successor Trustee's option at any time. 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. W&A No. 726 157654

DATED November 29, 2012.

WILSON & ASSOCIATES, P.L.L.C., Successor Trustee
DSaleNoticeTN-Shellie_jquimby_121129_755
FOR SALE
INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.MYFIR.COM and
WWW.REALTYTRAC.COM

Insertion dates: December 11, 2012, December 18, 2012, December 25, 2012

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

WHEREAS, default has occurred in the performance of the covenants, terms, and conditions of a Deed of Trust Note dated January 21, 2011, and the Deed of Trust of even date securing the same, recorded February 3, 2011, at Book 130, Page 950 in Office of the Register of Deeds for Cannon County, Tennessee, executed by **DELORES CAROL MORRIS**, conveying certain property therein described to Arnold M. Weiss, Esq., 208 Adams Avenue, Memphis, TN

38103 as Trustee for Wells Fargo Bank N.A.; and the undersigned, Wilson & Associates, P.L.L.C., having been appointed Successor Trustee.

NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable; and that an agent of Wilson & Associates, P.L.L.C., as Successor Trustee, by virtue of the power, duty, and authority vested in and imposed upon said Successor Trustee will, on **January 4, 2013 on or about 3:45 P.M., at the Cannon County Courthouse, Woodbury, Tennessee**, offer for sale certain property hereinafter described to the highest bidder FOR CASH, free from the statutory right of redemption, homestead, dower, and all other exemptions which are expressly waived in the Deed of Trust, said property being real estate situated in Cannon County, Tennessee, and being more particularly described as follows:

The following described property:

A certain tract or parcel of realty located in the Eleventh (11th) Civil District, Cannon County, State of Tennessee, described as follows, to-wit:

Bounded on the North and also on the West by the J.B. Gaither realty; bounded on the South by Tennessee State Highway 96; and, bounded on the East by the Henry Pursell realty, and measuring by estimation a frontage of 150 feet on the Highway, with an estimated backline of 150 feet, and an estimated depth of 200 feet running thence about North from the Highway.

ALSO KNOWN AS: 541 Poplar Bluff Road East, Auburntown, Tennessee 37016-6041

The HB 3588 letter was mailed to the borrower(s) pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated 35-5-117. This sale is subject to all matters shown on any applicable recorded plat; any unpaid taxes; any restrictive covenants, easements, or setback lines that may be applicable; any statutory rights of

redemption of any governmental agency, state or federal; any prior liens or encumbrances as well as any priority created by a fixture filing; and to any matter that an accurate survey of the premises might disclose. In addition, the following parties may claim an interest in the above-referenced property: Delores Carol Morris; Estate of Delores Carol Morris; Heir of Delores Carol Morris; Hallmart Credit; Unknown Heirs of the Estate of Delores Carol Morris

The sale held pursuant to this Notice may be rescinded at the Successor Trustee's option at any time. 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. W&A No. 1286 229306

DATED November 20, 2012

WILSON & ASSOCIATES, P.L.L.C., Successor Trustee
DSaleNoticeTN-Shellie_jquimby_121120_1634
FOR SALE
INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.MYFIR.COM and
WWW.REALTYTRAC.COM

Insertion dates: December 11, 2012, December 18, 2012, December 25, 2012

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR CANNON COUNTY, TENNESSEE AT WOODBURY

RALPH ETHRIDGE KEASLING, Plaintiff vs. EUGENIA RENEE KEASLING, Defendant
Case No. 12-170

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

In the Chancery Court for Cannon County, Tennessee, Case No. 12-170, Ralph Ethridge Keasing vs. Eugenia Renee Keasing.

To: Eugenia Renee Keasing

It appearing that service cannot be had upon you in Cannon County, Tennessee or that you now are a non-resident of Tennessee, it is ORDERED that unless you appear and defend said action within thirty (30) days after February 2, 2013 a default judgment may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the divorce petition filed in said action.

This the 4th day of December, 2012.

WILLIAM H. BRYSON
Clerk and Master
4t-thru Jan. 2-P

NOTICE OF MEETING

CANNON COUNTY 9-1-1 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors of the Cannon County 9-1-1 Emergency Communications District will meet at **6:30 p.m., February 28**, in the Conference Room of the Stones River Hospital in Woodbury, Tennessee, or such other location as may be posted at the Courthouse, where and which time the Board will consider any matter that may be properly presented. Meetings of the Board are at the same time and location on the 2nd Tuesday of the months of June and December, and the 4th Thursday on the months of February, April, August, and October. The public is invited to all meetings.

John Naylor, Chairman
9-1-1 Board of Directors

Request for Proposal

The Cannon County Solid Waste Department will be accepting proposals for the transportation of solid waste from the collection site in Cannon County to Allied Waste, Inc. in Walter Hill, Tennessee.

Proposals will be accepted until 10:00 a.m. on Friday, December 21, 2012.

For a list of duties and responsibilities for which proposals are sought, contact the County Executive's Office.

2t-Dec. 12, 19

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held December 28, 2012, at 2:00 p.m. at the Woodbury City Hall, 101 W. Water St., Woodbury, TN.

The purpose of the hearing is to assess the community development needs of the Town of Woodbury and to solicit comments from citizens regarding the possible filing of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application with the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development. This hearing is open to the public and all interested persons are encouraged to attend.

The Town of Woodbury adheres to all state and federal non-discrimination laws. Persons needing special accommodations to attend the meeting should contact the office of Mayor Harold Patrick, at 615-563-4221.

2t-Dec. 12, 19

NOTICE

Take notice that Satishkumar D. Patel of 2309 Foxcreek Drive, Murfreesboro, TN made application to the Cannon County Beer Board on October 25, 2012 for a permit to sell packaged beer as provided in Section 57-201 E.T. SEQ, Tennessee Code Annotated.

The application states the business will be operated at 1256 Jim Cummings Hwy., Woodbury, Tn 37190, known as Cannon Market and will continue to operate as Cannon Market.

The Cannon County Beer Board will meet Wednesday, December 26, 2012 at the Cannon County Courthouse at 6:00 p.m.

2t-Dec. 12, 19

Check out Tennessee newspaper's public notices at tnpress.com

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ROOTED AND GROUND LAWN CARE - Mowing, trimming, hedges, overseeding, aerating, light tree work. **931-314-4167.**

FLEA MARKET

Woodbury Flea Market open every weekend. 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.

For Sale

NOTICE PRODUCT SALE - Miss Helen's Christmas Sale; different kinds of product. December perm sale \$8.00; cuts \$2.00 men and women; kids \$1.00; colors \$10.00; highlights \$15.00; roller set \$2.00; curling iron \$3.00 **615-563-8200 or 615-617-7742.**

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FOR SALE - Air compressor, 6 hp, 60 gallon, 2 stage, 175 psi, home used only; BT 3000 Ryobi table saw on metal workstand with coasters, has extension work side table with new motor, hardly used. \$375 for all table saw items. **615-765-7271.**

MINI FARM FOR SALE - 7 acres, 3 large barns, 980 Spry Road, possible lease/purchase @ \$109,900. Call **Don at 615-714-6666.**

FOR SALE - Whirlpool 18 cu. ft. refrigerator with ice maker, white, \$250 OBO. **615-849-5361.**

FOR SALE - Square bales grass hay, \$4.00 per bale, straw \$3.00 per bale. **615-464-7080.**

USED APPLIANCES AND A/C UNITS FOR SALE - Please call **615-427-3193.**

FIREWOOD FOR SALE - Seasoned firewood \$40 a rick, Goff's Tree Experts **734-355-6038.**

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FOR RENT - 3 bedroom, 1 bath home in Woodbury, large rooms will accomodate large furniture, \$650 per month, no pets. Call **Bill Parsley, Clark Maples Realty and Auction Co. 615-5-653-1365.**

FOR RENT - 2 bedroom mobile home near Sav-a-Lot on Hwy. 53, South McCrary Street, natural gas available, no deposit. \$450 per month. Call **618-2918 (cell phone).**

FOR RENT - Large commercial or office space available on square in Woodbury. Call **765-5989 or 962-5229.**

FOR RENT - 1 bedroom, close to town. \$450 per month, peace and quiet of country but in city, satellite, water and internet included, no electric deposit, not handicapped accessible, no smoking. Animals are \$50 each per month. Deposit available in advance, available December 10. Can be rented furnished or unfurnished. **615-563-4444 or 542-6154.**

FOR RENT - 2 bedroom upstairs apartment, water furnished, no pets, \$450 month, plus a \$250 deposit. Call **563-2184.**

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raggedyannshoney@yahoo.com

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Commercial or residential, painting and lawn care. Beat any price in town. Call **Todd at 615-6653-2336.**

JPG United Propane Gas SALESMAN DRIVER INSTALLER

Quality Propane Gas in Lebanon has an opening for a local propane gas delivery salesman truck driver and tank installer. Must have CDL-HazMat Tanker, best job with excellent pay and benefits. Please call **(615) 453-1081 or 1-800-874-4427 ext. 144** or email: kwalker@upgas.com

Alcoholics Anonymous

If you want to drink, that's your business. If you want to stop - that's ours. Call us at **615-653-7423.**


Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees.

Our primary purpose is to stay sober and to help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

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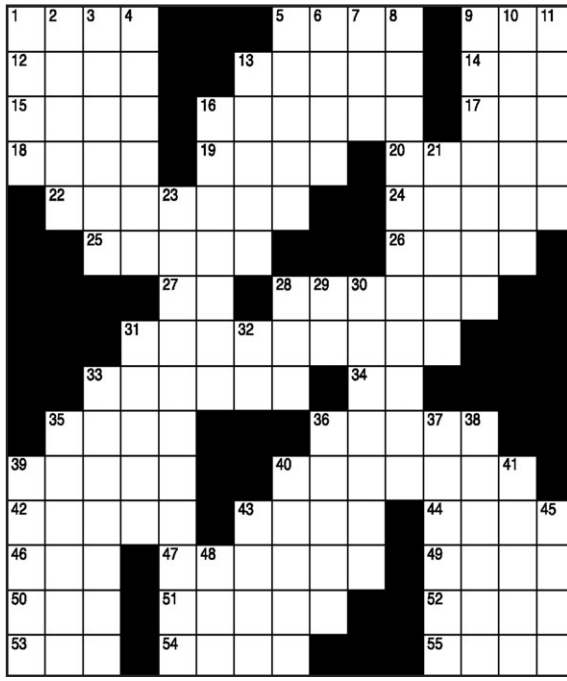
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GUN SHOW DEC. 15-16 Sat. 9-5 & Sun. 9-4 - Murfreesboro Mid-TN Expo Center (1209 Park Ave) Exit 81 off I-24. Buy - Sell - Trade. Info: **(563) 927-8176** (TnScan)

GUN SHOW DEC. 15-16 Sat. 9-5 & Sun. 9-4 - White Pine - Great Smoky Mountains Expo Center (1615 Pavilion Dr) Buy - Sell - Trade. Info: **(563) 927-8176**

TEASERS & TRIVIA



Last week puzzle answers

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



Ask Ken Beck

Bob Newhart brings laughs to Nashville Jan. 31

Dear Ken: How many TV series did Bob Newhart star in? I say two, my wife says three.

Chicagoan George Robert Newhart, 83, starred in five TV series: "The Bob Newhart Show," 1961-1962; "The Bob Newhart Show," 1972-1978; "Newhart," 1982-1990; "Bob," 1992-1993; and "George & Leo," 1997-1998. The former accountant and advertising copywriter also acted in the movies "Cold Turkey," "Catch-22," "First Family," "Elf" and "Horrible Bosses." The father of four will bring his comedy act to Nashville's Schermerhorn Symphony Center at 7 p.m. Jan. 31.

Dear Ken: Just wondering, who are some of the actors who have played Scrooge in the various versions of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" over the years?

More than I can count. Among them are Seymour Hicks, Lionel Barrymore (on radio), John Carradine, Alastair Sim, Jim Backus (as the voice of Mister Magoo as Scrooge), Albert Finney, Henry Winkler, Hoyt Axton, George C. Scott, Bill Murray, Rowan Atkinson, Michael Caine, Susan Lucci, Cicely Tyson, Jack Palance, Patrick Stewart, Vanessa Williams, Tori Spelling, Kelsey Grammer and Jim Carrey. The newest version, reportedly coming to theaters next year, will be "A White Trash Christmas" (I did not make this up), starring Taryn Manning, Eric Roberts, Beverly D'Angelo, Danny Woodburn and Meat Loaf.

Dear Ken: What actress was the voice of Peggy on "The King of the Hill" comedy series?

That is Kathy Najimy, 55, who talked opposite Mike Judge's Hank Hill in the 1997-2010 animated series. Also a co-star of the TV series "Veronica's Closet," she was in the movies "Hocus Pocus," "Sister Act" and "Rat Race."

Dear Ken: How did Jay Silverheels, who played Tonto to the Lone Ranger in the TV series, die?

Born Harold J. Smith, the son of a Canadian Mohawk chief, Silverheels was a topnotch athlete in lacrosse, boxing and wrestling and began his acting career as a stuntman. He died from complications of a stroke in 1980, at age 67, but left his legacy in such films as "Key Largo," "The Pathfinder," "Saskatchewan," "Walk the Proud Land," "The Man Who Loved Cat Dancing" and more than 200 episodes of "The Lone Ranger" TV series (1949-1957).

If you have a trivia question about actors, singers, movies, TV shows or pop culture, e-mail your query to Ken Beck at kbttag2@gmail.com

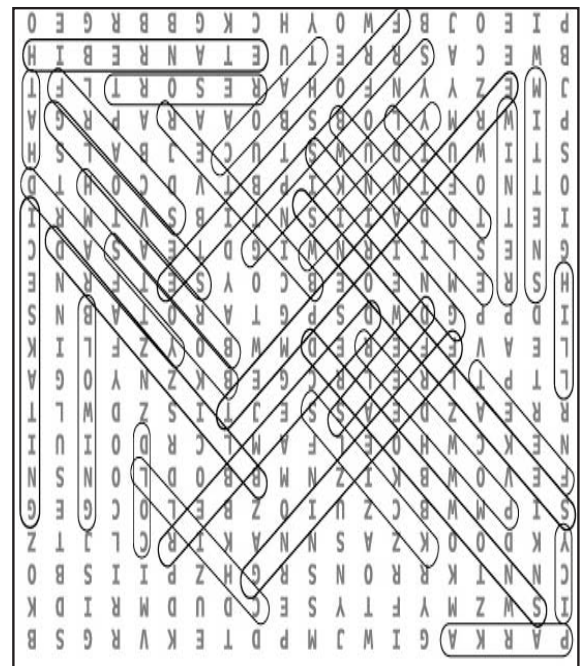
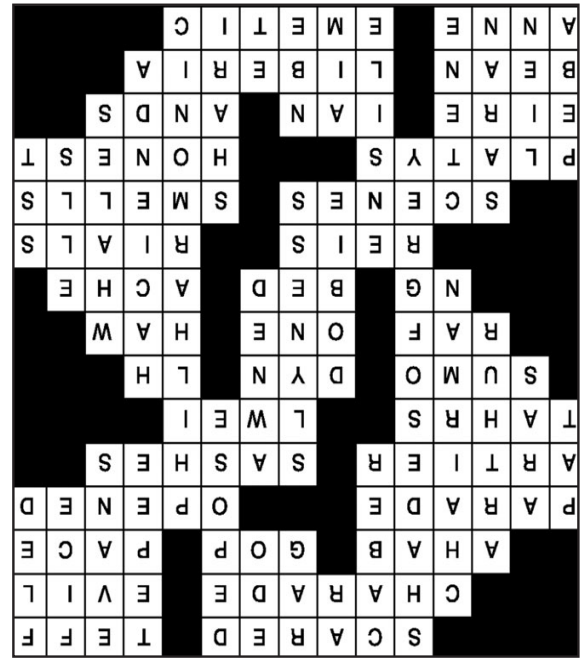
CLUES ACROSS

- 1st Hall of Famer Ty
- Coat with plaster
- Reciprocal of a sine (abbr.)
- Jai __, sport
- Straight muscles
- 10 = 1 dong
- Peru's capital
- Of a main artery
- Latin for hail
- Give birth to a horse
- Colors material
- Triglyceride is one
- Take a plane hostage
- Margarines
- A tributary of the Missouri River
- Bring up children
- 3rd tone of the scale
- Light boat (French)
- Relating to geometry
- Cursed, obstinate
- Aluminum
- Sec. of State 1981-82
- Barn towers
- Donito genus
- Deep ravines
- Spirit in "The Tempest"
- Small restaurant
- Bambi for example
- Actor DeCaprio
- Ambled or strolled
- Cleanse with soap and water
- Atomic mass unit
- Var. of emir
- Supplemented with difficulty
- Manuscripts (abbr.)
- Frambesia
- Auld lang __, good old days

CLUES DOWN

- A young cow
- Collection of miscellaneous pieces
- Mali capital
- Onion rolls
- "10" actress Bo
- Performs in a play
- Iguana genus
- Fox's Factor host
- French hat
- One who rescues
- Female students
- Rolls- __, luxury car
- Slow tempos
- Relating to the ileum
- Irish flautist
- Sleeping place
- Indicates position
- Prepared for competition
- One who shows the way
- Of 1
- Decayed teeth
- Seraglios
- More free from danger
- Great amounts
- Surreptitious
- Arabian greeting
- Angel food and carrot
- # of ancient wonders
- Ball of thread or yarn
- To interpret; explain
- Doctors' group

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



Only 5 days until Christmas!

AUTOMOTIVE WORD SEARCH

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

kids' corner

ANIMAL FACT:

BEARS ARE NOT THE ONLY ANIMALS THAT HIBERNATE IN THE WINTER. CAN YOU NAME ANOTHER?

ANSWER: BADGERS, HEDGEHOGS, MOths, FROGS, AND SOME SNAKES.

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Snow
SPANISH: Nieve
ITALIAN: Neve
FRENCH: Neige
GERMAN: Schnee

Crossword Puzzle

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| 5 | | 6 | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| 7 | | | |

ACROSS
 1. Cold season
 5. Prohibit
 7. Pulling on

DOWN
 1. Blowing
 2. Pinches or squeezes
 3. Not fake
 4. Frozen precipitation falling
 6. Very eager to see

Answers:
 Across: 1. Winter 5. Disallow 7. Tugging
 Down: 1. Windy 2. Nips 3. Real 4. Snowing 6. Aarg

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY

1653: OLIVER CROMWELL BECOMES LORD PROTECTOR OF ENGLAND, SCOTLAND AND IRELAND.

1773: THE BOSTON TEA PARTY TAKES PLACE.

1972: HENRY KISSINGER ANNOUNCES THAT NORTH HAS LEFT PRIVATE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS DURING THE VIETNAM WAR.

New word

chill
 moderate coldness

- Alternator - Automotive - Ballbearing - Brakes- Caliper - Car - Cylinder - Directions - Distributor - Fanbelt - Fittings - Hoses - Hydraulic - Lanes - Leaks - Lights - Manufacturer - Map - Measure - Modulator - Motor - Piston - Power - Proportional - Reverse - Rings - Rivet - Roads- Sensor - Signal - Specifications - Speed - Steering - Valves - Windshield - Wipers

Did you know?

THE FIRST SNOWMAN CAN BE TRACED TO EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN. YETTY PAUL AND HER FATHER MADE IT IN JANUARY OF 1809 TO SCARE AWAY BOXING DAY ELVES.

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: CURLING STONE

SPORTS

Holiday tournaments on tap for hoops

TONY STINNETT
Courier Sports Editor
 Cannon County is hoping for holiday cheer in upcoming basketball tournaments; however, it is also a final chance to look at different rotations and get set for the final push in January.

The Lionettes (10-1) and Lions (7-4) will host first-round action in the Sun Drop Romp Basketball Tournament Thursday before the event shifts to Warren County High School and Morrison School in Warren County Friday and Saturday.

The Lions will host Wilson Central Thursday at 4:30 p.m. The winner of the

this game will play Hixson at Cannon County High School Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

The Lionettes will play host to Grundy County at 6 p.m. in a quarterfinal game Thursday.

Season passes for CCHS home games will not be honored for these games as it is part of Warren County's tournament. CCHS is being used as a satellite site.

If the Lionettes win Thursday they will face either Rhea County or Warren County in the semifinals at Warren County High School Friday at 4:30 p.m.

If the Lionettes lost their

quarterfinal game Thursday they would play Friday at 4:30 p.m. at Morrison School.

The girls championship game is scheduled for Saturday at 4:30 p.m. at Warren County High School.

The boys bracket is a bit more complicated.

If the Lions win their first game Thursday afternoon, they play again that night. Pretty simple.

If they win both of those games they would play in the semifinals Friday at 6 p.m. at Warren County High School.

The boys championship is scheduled for Saturday at 6 p.m. at WCHS.

There is still two remaining scenarios for the boys. If they won the first game Thursday and lost the second then they would play Friday at 1:30 p.m. in a consolation game at Warren County High School.

If they won that game the Lions would play for fifth place Saturday at noon at WCHS.

If the Lions lost their first game Thursday they would play in the consolation game Friday at 6 p.m. at Morrison School.

Both teams will play in a tournament in San Destin, Fla., the following week. More on that tournament in next week's Courier.



TONY STINNETT photo
Josh Ruehlen, right, and the Lions will turn their attention to holiday basketball tournaments during the next two weeks.

Dominance of DeKalb continues

Lionettes extend win streak to 33 against district rival

TONY STINNETT
Courier Sports Editor
SMITHVILLE - Cannon County's dominance of rival DeKalb County continued as the Lionettes rolled to a 70-38 win in front of a packed house here Tuesday (Dec. 11).

Abbey Sissom poured in 24 points and Abby Jakes finished with 17 as the Lionettes extended their win streak against DeKalb County to 33 straight. Cannon County improved to 10-0 overall and 4-0 in District 8-AA.

"We never take this game for granted," Sissom said. "I would say they get our best shot because we never overlook DeKalb County."

The Lionettes, who also got eight points from Rebekah Faulkner and six from Emily Pemberton, got off to a fast start.

Jakes hit the first two 3-pointer she took and Sissom scored the next five points. It was 11-0 in favor of Cannon County before the Lady Tigers finally scored. The Lionettes led 19-5 after the first quarter and stormed to a 40-19 halftime lead.

"We were focused and ready to play at the beginning," Cannon County Head Coach Michael Dodgen said. "I was proud of how we came out and attacked them from the opening tip."

That mindset; however, did not continue into the second half.

Cannon County seemed to get comfortable with its 21-point halftime lead and DeKalb County took full advantage.

The Lady Tigers initially started chipping away at the lead. Then it followed turnovers with baskets and eventually whittled the deficit to nine, 42-33, with 2:40 remaining in the third quarter.

Suddenly, DeKalb County was feeling as if the streak's end may be near.

"We did not come out ready to play in the third quarter and I take full responsibility for that," Dodgen said. "For whatever reason we didn't come back out with the same mentality we had in the first half and that can not happen. When you have teams down you have to put them away."

The Lionettes roared back in commanding fashion. They finished the half with a 10-0 run over the final 2:08 to take a 52-33 lead into the fourth quarter.

Jakes' long 3-pointer initiated the run and stretched the lead to 45-33 with 2:08 remaining in the third quarter. Walkup followed with a layup on a nice assist from Sissom. Following a DeKalb miss, Sissom knocked down a 3-pointer and finished the quarter with a layup to turn the game back in Cannon County's favor.

"We were able to turn things back around and get momentum on our side going into the fourth quarter," Sissom said. "We let up early in the third quarter and it almost cost us. Fortunately we were able to turn it around but you don't want to be in the that position."

The Lionettes didn't let up in the fourth quarter.

Jakes opened Cannon County's scoring with a layup and Sissom followed with a 3-pointer. Pemberton then scored six straight points to push the lead to 63-36 and Cannon County rolled to the one-sided win.

The Lionettes remained tied with Livingston Academy for the top spot in District 8-AA.

"We learned a lesson here tonight," Dodgen said. "We have played pretty good overall but I still don't think we have played a complete game for four quarters. We continue to work to get better, and I see improvement game to game."



TONY STINNETT photo
Ashley Basham, 20, and Madison Walkup, background, provide the defense against a DeKalb County player during the renewal of their rivalry.

Lions' upset bid falls short

TONY STINNETT
Courier Sports Editor
SMITHVILLE - Cannon County had two shots at pulling off the road upset in the final 14 seconds but DeKalb County dodged a bullet and escaped with a 52-50 win here Tuesday (Dec. 11).

Cory Henley and Jarrett Melton each had looks at potential game-winning 3-pointers in the final 14 seconds but each was off the mark. Melton led the Lions (7-3, 2-2) with 15 points, six rebounds and three assists. Alex Davenport finished with 11 points, Henley added nine and Tanner Larson contributed seven points and six rebounds.

The game was competitive throughout and Cannon County first started thinking potential upset when Larson's three-point play provided the Lions with a 30-24 lead with 2:10 remaining in the first half.

The Lions trailed 33-31 at intermission and 43-40 at the end of the three quarters.

"We really competed and gave ourselves a chance to get a big district win on the road," Cannon County Head Coach Matt Rigsby said. "We just didn't do some little things that are so important; things we usually do well."

The game was lost on the boards. Cannon County was outrebounded 41-30, including allowing 15 offensive rebounds.

"That was the difference in the game," Rigsby said. "We gave up 12 points on offensive rebounds and putbacks. We just didn't do well enough rebounding. That is disappointing because we take a lot of pride in our defense and rebounding."

Cannon County trailed by as many as 10 in the fourth quarter but made a riveting comeback to give itself a chance at the road win.

Cannon County swept on road

TONY STINNETT
Courier Sports Editor
McMINNVILLE - It was a rarity but Cannon County suffered a road sweep at Warren County Friday (Dec. 14).

The Lionettes (10-1) never got going offensively and suffered their first loss in 11 games, falling 39-36. Abby Jakes led the Lionettes with 15 points.

Cannon County jumped out to a 7-2 lead but couldn't build upon the advantage.

The Lions, led by Cory Henley's 15 points, suffered a 65-55 setback against the Pioneers.

Cannon County dropped to 7-4 overall and are 0-3 on the road.

The Lions play host to Wilson Central in the first round of the Sun Drop Romp Thursday at 4:30 p.m.

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Lady Raiders' Rowe collects pair of honors

MT Sports Report
MURFREESBORO - Middle Tennessee's Ebony Rowe collected another pair of honors as she was named the Sun Belt Conference and the Tennessee Sports Writers Association (TSWA) Player of the Week last week. The junior forward belted off three double-doubles as

Middle Tennessee completed a 2-1 record. Rowe averaged 19.0 points and 12.7 rebounds. She shot at a 44.7 percent clip (21-of-47) from the field, while snatching nine steals and dishing out eight assists. The Lexington, Ky., native scored 14 points and grabbed 14 rebounds in

MT's 70-56 win over Austin Peay. Rowe stole three passes and blocked a pair of shots against the Lady Gobs. Two days later, Rowe notched 24 points and grabbed 14 boards with a season-high five steals in MT's 63-48 win over Xavier. The junior forward didn't let up, picking up her sixth double-double this season

with 19 points and 10 rebounds at No. 7/6 Kentucky. Sunday's double-double at UK moved Rowe into a tie for the school's all-time career double-doubles record, tying Priscilla Robinson's mark of 38. Her six double-doubles this year ranks sixth in the NCAA. Rowe moved into 16th

all-time in scoring as she has accumulated 1,267 points and moved up to seventh with 754 rebounds in her three-year career. Rowe is leading the Blue Raiders with 19.8 points and 10.8 rebounds in 10 games played this season. The SBC Player of the Week honor is the second for Rowe this season and

the 10th in her career. She is second in school history and third in the league with weekly plaudits. Rowe's TSWA was her second of the season. MT is in the midst of an 11-day break from action. The Raiders (6-4) return to Sun Belt play by hosting FIU on Thursday, Dec. 20 at the Murphy Center.

Bounced at Belmont

Blue Raiders suffer road loss against Bruins

MT Sports Report
NASHVILLE - The Middle Tennessee men's basketball team kept it close against Belmont through the first half, but a 16-3 run to open the second stanza propelled the Bruins to a 64-49 win on Thursday night at the Curb Event Center. The Blue Raiders (7-3) shot a season-low 28.6 percent from the field, while Belmont (7-2) hit 50 percent of its shots. JT Sulton neared a double-double for MT with nine points and eight rebounds and Jason Jones added eight points. Belmont's Kerron Johnson led all scorers with 17 points, while Ian Clark had 15 and Blake Jenkins tacked on 11. MT owned a 22-8 advantage in bench production and a 19-9 margin in second-chance points, but the Bruins' 36-24 advantage in the paint

proved to be the difference. Belmont also out-rebounded the Blue Raiders, 39-37, and blocked seven shots. The two teams traded the lead five times in the early frame before the Bruins pulled away at halftime. The Blue Raiders led by as many as four in the first half on four different occasions and didn't relinquish the lead until the 8:02 mark when Jenkins tipped in a Johnson miss. The Bruins went up by three on a pair of Jenkins free throws, but Raymond Cintron responded with a triple to knot things at 20 for the first tie of the game. The Bruins went up by three again with 3:11 remaining in the half, but Tweety Knight's steal on an in-bounds pass and quick layup made it a one-point game with 2:38 to go before the break. It remained a 27-26 Bruin lead until the buzzer when

J.J. Mann knocked down a 3-pointer to give Belmont a 30-26 advantage at halftime. The Bruins carried that momentum into the second half, scoring the first eight points of the frame. Belmont led by as many as 18 with five minutes to play and MT never got closer than 11 after the 17:40 mark. **COACH KERMIT DAVIS**
On the performance... "First off, I give all the credit to Belmont. They were the toughest team. We didn't play with the edge that we usually do. I was disappointed because we had a good contingent of Blue Raider fans that came over for the game. I'm embarrassed for our program and the way we played. "With our schedule, as good as the teams are that we've played, if you don't have your very best edge

and juice, this will happen. It starts with me." **On Belmont's defense...** "Belmont guarded us well. They're not known for blocking shots and Jenkins had five. When we play teams like Belmont, we have to be the most physical team around the goal. They were the most physical team around the goal. When Belmont out-physicals you, and they're a physical team, they're tough, but that's got to be our strength in this particular game. We just got soundly whipped in every facet." **MT's JT SULTON**
On the game... "With a team like Belmont that does a good job of pressuring the ball up the court, we didn't do a good job of getting the ball side to side and knocking down good shots. They're a good team, hats off to them."

Blue Raiders stun Ole Miss

MT Sports Report
MURFREESBORO - Kerry Hammonds' jumper with 40 seconds remaining proved to be the difference as the Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders defeated the Ole Miss Rebels, 65-62, at Murphy Center. The win was MT's fifth in the last six games and fourth in a row against Ole Miss. The Blue Raiders handed the Rebels (6-1) their first loss of the season while MT (7-2) remained undefeated on its home court this year at 4-0. "It was a good win for us, especially against a team like Ole Miss with such a good RPI," Middle Tennessee Head Coach Kermit Davis said. "Ole Miss is a quality team and it is going to win a lot of games in the SEC." Marcos Knight led the Blue Raiders with 14 points, his eighth straight game in double-figures. Raymond Cintron added 10 points, making 3-of-4 three-pointers. The Blue Raiders scored 23 points off 18 Ole Miss turnovers and outscored the Rebels 32-30 in the paint. The Rebels entered the contest leading the country with a +9.0 turnover margin, but MT owned a +4.0 advantage in the game. MT erased a six-point Ole Miss lead early in the first half, when Marcos Knight and Tweety Knight combined for seven straight points to take a 14-13 lead with 12:03 remaining in the half. The Blue Raiders led by as much as seven points in the first half before taking a 33-29 lead at halftime. The Rebels used an 11-4 run to start the second half, taking a 40-37 lead with 16:44 to play. MT answered with a 10-2 run to go ahead 47-42. The Blue Raiders led by seven, 59-52, with 3:45 to play before Ole Miss went on a 7-0 run to tie the game 59-59 with 2:08 to play. Hammonds then broke the tie with his basket from the corner with 40 seconds left. JT Sulton and Bruce Massey each converted a free throw to make it a four-point cushion before Jarvis Summers knocked down a triple with 1.7 seconds remaining. Cintron knocked down a free throw at the opposite end with 0.9 to go and the Rebels turned the ball over on the in-bounds pass to seal the Blue Raider win. Four Rebels scored double-figures, led by Marshall Henderson with 17. Murphy Holloway and Nick Williams each had 11 and Reginald Buckner added 10.

Raiders' Christmas camp scheduled for Dec. 22

Middle Tennessee men's basketball will host its annual Christmas Camp on Saturday, Dec. 22 at Murphy Center. The camp will run from 9 a.m. to 3

p.m., with registration beginning at 8 a.m. Camp is open to boys and girls ages four to current sixth graders. The MT coaching staff will be on

hand to instruct individuals in various basketball skills. The cost is \$59 and includes lunch. To download the registration

form, click here. Walk-up registration is available until 9 a.m. on the day of camp. For more information, contact Mike Scutero at 615-898-5228 or

Huff & Puff

Trucking

Wishing you a Merry Christmas



With Warm Wishes AT THE BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOR

May we always hold tight to the true meaning of the season.

Just remember, the great gifts of this season, or any season, can't be put under the tree; you can't wear them or eat them or drive them or play with them.

We spend so much time on the lesser gifts--toys, sweaters, jewelry, the new car, electronics--and so little on the great gifts--understanding, grace, peace, forgiveness and salvation.

It's no wonder that the holiday leaves us empty, because when it's over, the only reminders we have are the tall mountains of used gift wrapping paper and the January bills.

We should forget about everything being perfect from our decorations and the food and really concentrate on the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and the sacrifices that Mary and Joseph made and the humbleness that baby Jesus was born into. Then we will truly experience Christmas.

FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS....

CANNON  COURIER

Ron Fryar

Mike West

Teresa Stoetzel

Tony Stinnett

Candy Cane Bath Salts In A Jar Magic Reindeer Food

Looking for an easy, inexpensive holiday gift? Pretty layered bath salts make a perfect gift for teens, co-workers or teachers. Sparked with the holiday scent of peppermint, Candy Cane Bath Salts are a seasonal treat.

Makes 12 gift jars at a cost approximately \$1.50 per jar.

Candy Cane Bath Salts instructions can be used as a hanging tag, or trimmed to fit beneath the outer ring of a Mason jar lid.

Ingredients

12 tall jelly (12-ounce) canning jars with lid and rings
2 cartons epsom salts, 4 pound (approximately 16 cups)
4 pounds sea salt or kosher salt (approximately 6 cups)
1/2 teaspoon glycerin, divided
12 drops peppermint essential oil
12 drops red food color
2 pieces cardstock (for tags)

Instructions

Wash, rinse and dry canning jars.
Empty one carton Epsom Salts into large mixing bowl or batter bowl. Add 3 cups sea salt, stir well. Stir in 1/4 teaspoon glycerin and 6 to 8 drops essential oil. Mix well.
In second large mixing bowl, empty one carton Epsom Salts, and add 3 cups sea salt. Stir well. Add 1/4 teaspoon glycerin, 6 to 8 drops essential oil, and food color. Stir until completely blended. Color should be even.

CEO's tip: use a heavy-duty stand mixer (such as Kitchenaid-brand) to mix bath salts easily. Set mixer to lowest setting and mix until color is even—but don't try this with hand mixers or smaller stand mixers!

Holding canning jars at an angle, layer salts in jars, alternating white and colored mixtures.

Cut gift tags apart and attach to jars. Tags may be trimmed and placed beneath canning jar rings, tied on with ribbon, or taped to gift jars.

This recipe makes 12 12-ounce gift jars, plus a bonus of 3 to 4 cups extra bath salts. Package them in small plastic zipper craft bags for easy stocking stuffers!

Makes 12 gift jars.

Many families leave cookies and milk for Santa, but what about his reindeer?

Sprinkled on the lawn on Christmas Eve, Magic Reindeer Food leaves a glittering path—and a sweet snack—for Rudolph and friends.

An inexpensive stocking stuffer, Magic Reindeer Food makes a great classroom or Secret Santa gift.

Package this simple recipe in zipper food storage bags, and add a free printable gift tag containing the Magic Reindeer Food poem to make Magic Reindeer Food easy to make—and to give.

Magic Reindeer Food Recipe

In a small zipper food storage bag or empty shaker container, mix:

1/2 cup uncooked oatmeal
1/2 cup sugar
1/4 cup red or green sugar crystals (as used for cake decorating)

[Note: many Internet recipes for Magic Reindeer Food call for craft glitter, which can harm birds or wildlife if ingested. For safety, substitute colored sugar crystals and be kind to animals!]

Magic Reindeer Food Poem

Be sure to take this magic food and sprinkle on the lawn, On Christmas, Santa's reindeer travel miles before the dawn.

The smell of oats and glitter path will guide them on their way

And you'll wake up to Santa's gifts next morn on Christmas Day!



Snowman Soup: Recipe For Warming Winter Gift

Warm the hearts of good little boys and girls with a packet of Snowman Soup!

Take a single-serving package of hot chocolate mix, chocolate candy kiss, marshmallows and candy cane, package in a mug or holiday-themed goody bag, then add a free printable gift tag or bag topper for a cheery winter gift.

Easy enough for children to make, Snowman Soup is perfect for stocking stuffers, office gifts, Secret Santa presents or 12 Days of Christmas gifts.

Add a Winter Warmer Jiffy Pop® Popcorn Topper for an easy, cheery winter gift basket.

Ingredients

1 individual packet hot chocolate mix
2-3 chocolate kiss candies
10-15 mini-marshmallows
small candy cane
treat bag or zipper food storage bag
plastic wrap or small zipper storage bag

Instructions

Place mini-marshmallows in small zipper storage bag, or wrap in plastic wrap.

Tuck hot chocolate packet into treat bag. Add marshmallows, chocolate kiss candies, and candy cane.

Seal bag or close with twist tie. Holiday hint: glitzy chenille stems make pretty, decorative bag closures. Curl stem ends around a finger or a wooden spoon to create a curly closure!

Add a printable gift tag or bag topper, or attach hand-written tag using the Snowman Soup poem below.

Snowman Soup

Was told you've been real good this year.
Always glad to hear it!
With freezing weather drawing near,
You'll need to warm the spirit.

So here's a little Snowman Soup
Complete with stirring stick.
Add hot water, sip it slow.
It's sure to do the trick!

Cranberry Hootycreeks Cookies In A Jar

Pretty, festive and easy to make, Cranberry Hootycreeks make a welcome holiday cookie-in-a-jar gift.

Dried cranberries and white chocolate chips give a seasonal spin to these chunky oatmeal cookies.

To make, you'll layer flour mix with oats, dried cranberries, white chocolate chips and chopped nuts for a pretty jar gift; we make it easy with a free printable gift tag!

Ingredients

1 1/8 cup sifted flour, all-purpose
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt

1/2 cup rolled oats, uncooked
1/3 cup granulated sugar
1/3 cup brown sugar, packed
1 cup dried cranberries
1/2 cup white chocolate baking chips
1/2 cup walnuts or pecans, chopped

Instructions

Sift flour before measuring. In a small bowl, combine flour, baking soda and salt.

Layer 1/2 the flour mixture in the bottom of a 1-quart canning jar, then add oats to the jar. Continue layering the remaining ingredients: flour mixture, granulated sugar, brown sugar (tamp tightly), dried cranberries, white chocolate baking chips, and chopped nuts.

Seal the jar, print and attach a printable gift tag. Or, hand-write recipe tag from the recipe below.

Cranberry Hootycreeks Recipe

Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease cookie sheet or line with parchment paper.

In a medium bowl, beat together 1/2 cup softened butter, 1 egg and 1 teaspoon vanilla until fluffy. Add contents of jar, and mix until well blended.

Drop rounded tablespoons onto the prepared cookie sheet. Bake for 8 to 10 minutes, until edges start to brown.

Cool on wire rack. Makes 18-24 cookies.



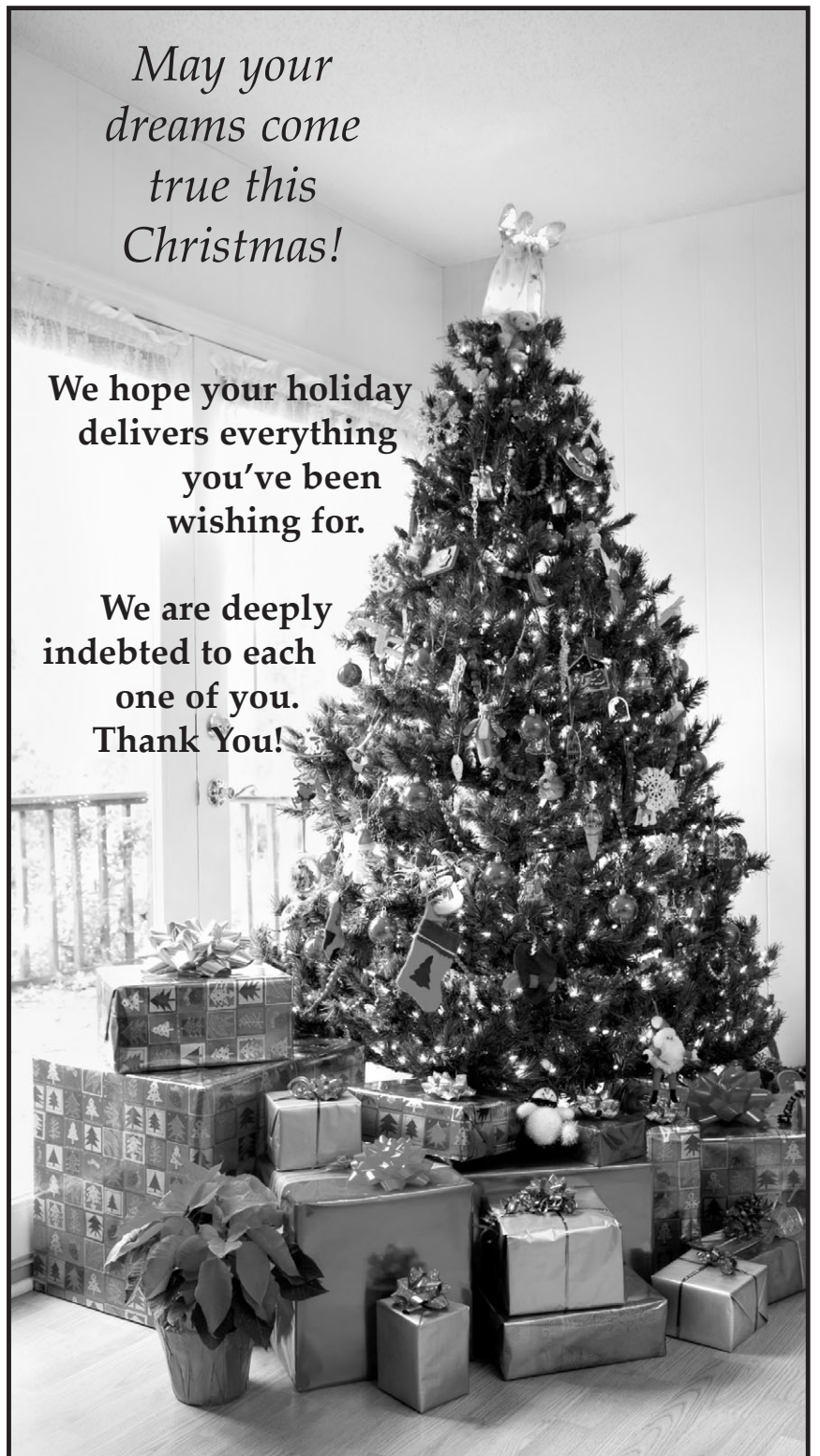
*With Appreciation
at the Holidays*

Because we value your business and friendship too,
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To express our best wishes along with our gratitude
For your support and goodwill and your most winning attitude.

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dreams come
true this
Christmas!*

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delivers everything
you've been
wishing for.**

**We are deeply
indebted to each
one of you.
Thank You!**

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A Doubtful Christmas

The value of hard work, love and commitment
By Doyle Suit

During the summer of 1944, my father sold everything we owned, took all the money and disappeared from our lives. My mother suddenly found herself alone to care for five boys. I was the oldest, barely ten years old. My youngest brother still wore diapers.

My grandparents welcomed us to their place – eighty acres of rocky hill country, twenty miles from the nearest town. They scratched a living out of growing row crops in the thin topsoil, and running beef cattle on open range.

Grandpa butchered an extra hog that year, and we planted a field of turnips to mature in the cool fall weather. We didn't know a lot of different ways to prepare turnips, but the farm supplied adequate food. My mother worked in the fields and cared for us kids while I started fifth grade at school.

Changes in our lives couldn't be avoided. My father had been abusive at times, but he'd always provided for us. Now, I worried about what might happen, but my mother stayed positive, and assured us that she would keep us together as a family and safe from harm.

Relatives donated hand-me-down clothes whenever they could, and the farm produced enough food to nourish all of us every day. I milked cows before catching the school bus, and did chores after I got home each day. The younger boys washed dishes, fed chickens and pigs, and carried in firewood. Six-year-old Jerry was paired with me on a crosscut saw, and we regularly cut wood to heat the house during the winter.

Our efforts paled in comparison to what our mother did, however. At one hundred-five pounds, she could swing an axe, manhandle heavy horse-drawn plows, haul hay for the cattle, and harvest crops. Still, she found time to help us with homework and say prayers with the younger boys. She also made sure we attended church regularly, and taught us to appreciate music.

As Christmas approached, my mother didn't seem to smile as much. She hinted that Santa might have trouble bringing us presents this year. I considered myself practically grown, so I hid my disappointment, but when I overheard a conversation between my mother and grandma, I really started to worry.

"I can't afford to buy Christmas presents for the kids," my mother said.

"You need to have something for them," grandma replied. "Maybe you could wrap some of the hand-me-downs."

"The kids would be terribly disappointed to find old clothes under the tree. I have to do better than that. Maybe I can make toys."

Homemade toys didn't excite me, but I realized she had no money to buy presents. Explaining that to the younger kids might be difficult, though.

One day, my mother took a saw into the forest and returned with a stack of tree limbs. She left them in the harness room in the barn and refused to tell her curious children what they were for.

She worked on her project while I was in school, but I peeked when I had a chance. Pieces of wood had been cut into different shapes, then planed and sanded smooth. Later I found a stack of discs cut from a round oak limb. She also had started to carve a long piece of hickory, but I couldn't figure out its purpose.

She hid everything from us and frustrated my attempts to snoop. But I saw that she had used nails, glue, and paint from grandpa's workshop. I concluded that she had to be making presents.

By Christmas week, my mother was her normal happy self again. Her project was apparently complete, and she evidently kept it secret because I'd looked everywhere without success.

When school let out for the holiday, my brothers and I cut a Christmas tree in the forest and dragged it home through the early snow. The whole family helped decorate it with ornaments, pinecones, and strings of popcorn. We gathered mistletoe and holly boughs and hung them throughout the house.

While my mother and grandma prepared food for Christmas dinner, I helped grandpa with chores. The

younger kids kept a diligent watch on pastries in the cupboard.

On Christmas Eve, we sang carols, and grandpa read aloud from his Bible. After my mother shooed us off to bed, I lay awake for a long while, anticipating Christmas morning. Aunts, uncles, and cousins would come for dinner, and I was curious about what my mother's project would yield. I doubted that it could be anything elaborate, and homemade toys still didn't sound exciting, but I couldn't help noticing that she'd made a huge effort to provide for us.

I was already awake when she tapped on our door. "Merry Christmas, boys."

We hurried into the living room, and saw that a stack of packages had magically appeared overnight under the tree. But before we were allowed to investigate what Santa had brought, my mother herded us into the kitchen for breakfast.

We gathered around the tree a little later, and my mother handed out the presents. My brothers opened packages stuffed with brightly colored trucks, tractors and trains. Those odd pieces of wood she had handled in secret were assembled and painted to form toys. The round discs made wheels that rolled, and the trucks and trains carried

tiny logs and blocks. A tractor pulled a miniature wagon. The toys were beautifully crafted, and my siblings were thrilled.

When I tore off the newspaper wrapping my present, I found a hand carved bow and a quiver of blunt arrows. Blunt was fine, because I knew how to make them suitable for hunting rabbits by forging steel arrowheads in grandpa's shop.

Many difficult years would follow that particular Christmas, but I never again doubted my mother's ability to care for us. That Christmas would have been bleak without her skill and dedication, and it foretold her ability to provide for us. We were never hungry, and she made sure we got an education. She taught us faith in God and faith in our own abilities. That faith sustains me still.

Looking back, my mother's determination and perseverance changed the harsh reality of that time, transforming our poverty into a memorable Christmas filled with delight. And as it tuned out, the craftsmanship in those toys predicted her later accomplishments as an artist and sculptor.

Sixty-three winters have come and gone since that special holiday – that doubtful Christmas. I'm quite sure, in fact I have no doubts, that I've never had a happier one.

Merry Christmas



During the Christmas season we would like to thank everyone that makes Cannon County great. There are so many things to be thankful for at this time of year, especially, family and friends, people that make our lives special and bring joy and happiness to all around them.

Our wishes to each of you for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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Left to right, Nikki, Laura, Elaine, Misty, Tabitha Smith, FNP-C

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Tabitha Smith, FNP-C

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Actual children's letters written to Santa Claus

The time honoured tradition of children writing letters to Santa, to let him know what they would like for Christmas began many years ago, but with most households now owning a computer, hand written letters are becoming a rarity. Messages to Santa can now even be sent via email - Santa has gone techno!

It is said that on average a child will write no more than 5 letters to Santa during their childhood and reflect their childlike belief in the magic of Christmas, a belief that many an adult wish they themselves had never lost.

I started this article with the intention to share with you some of the funny things children say in their letters to Santa, but as my research progressed, I found some of the stories that the children shared would wrench even at the heart of Scrooge himself.

The letters go beyond the expected "I want..." requests, and assuring Santa that they have been good; some of the children's messages will enchant you, some will fill you with Christmas cheer, whilst others will leave you misty eyed.

Different countries have their own traditional ways of giving the letter Santa. In the UK it is tradition to burn the Christmas letters on the fire so that they would be magically transported by the wind to the North Pole. However, this tradition is dying out in modern times with few people having open log fires in their homes. The Royal mail has come to the children's aid by giving them a special address to send letters to: Santa / Father Christmas, Santa's Grotto, Reindeerland, SAN TA1. In Mexico and other Latin American countries, besides using the mail, children will attach their letters to helium filled balloons and release them for Santa to magical receive. Many countries including the US, Canada, UK and Australia will leave their letter on a table alongside cookies or mince-pies and a glass of milk or sherry as a treat for Santa to eat as he reads the letter. My own children would also leave a carrot for the reindeer. Every December an envelope bearing a

stamp from the North Pole would arrive for J.R.R. Tolkien's children. Inside would be a letter in a strange, spidery handwriting and a beautiful colored drawing or painting. The letters were from Father Christmas. They told wonderful tales of life at the North Pole: how the reindeer got loose and scattered presents all over the place; how the accident-prone North Polar Bear climbed the North Pole and fell through the roof of Father Christmas's house into the dining room; how he broke the Moon into four pieces and made the Man in it fall into the back garden; how there were wars with the troublesome horde of goblins who lived in the caves beneath the house, and many more. No reader, young or old, can fail to be charmed by Tolkien's inventiveness in this classic holiday treat.

Many children try to justify their need for the things that they requesting in their letters such as these:

I want a puppy because they are cute, I want pjs because I need them, I want pants so people won't see my underwear. That is why I need those things.
- Jacqui, 8, Illinois.

Please send me pj's because we have a woodstove downstairs and my bedroom really gets cold at night and my nose gets almost as red as rudolphs
- LeAnna, 10, West Virginia.

Dear Santa, I want my own room so I can do my homework or read and my brother and sister won't disturb me. I can talk to my friends on the phone and no one will hear what I say. - Delorah

Dear Santa, I would like a makeup kit so I could give my mom a makeover when she goes to sing. She would look awesome for people. - Aliyah

Dear Santa, the reason I want a Wii is because when it snows my sister, my brother and I will not be bored. The second reason is we could have something to do over Christmas break. My third reason is so my mom can get some rest over the break. - Briawna

Dear Santa, I want a Play Station 2 because I can play games that I never played before. Last Christmas I got a PS2 and my brother wrecked it so that's why I want a PS2. - Luis

Dear Santa, I already have old clothes. I want more clothes so I could have new clothes. I would also like puffy boots ... because I have no boots. Another thing I would like for Christmas is more sweaters. I would like it because I would like to be cozy. - Yanira

Dear Santa, my second gift would be having my ears pierced. This would allow me to show I can be responsible. Also, so I can look better. - Katherine

It's time for Holly to make her Christmas list, but she has a few questions for Santa Claus first. So she decides to write notes to Santa instead and is amazed when he replies-five times!

Some children just don't know when they are well off. Look at the comparison between these two letters:

Dear Santa, I would like some clothes because I don't have a lot. I need clothes to dress myself. I would like more shoes because I only have three pairs (my underlining). I need shoes to put on my feet. - Carlos

Dear Santa, I hadn't had a new pair of shoes since 2007. It would really be awesome to have a new pair of shoes for once. - Sara

The latter letter was written in 2009, and you can sense how excited the child would be to receive their new shoes. Two years is a long time for a growing child to go without a new pair of shoes; somebody must have really been feling the pinch.

Younger children will often confess to a misdemeanor and express the hope that this does not spoil their chance of a happy Christmas morning. In Northwest Ohio, a postal worker, Kaye Aviles, has been helping Santa to answer his letters for about twenty years now in her own time

and using her own money. Kaye's response to the children is that, "he's checked his list and has seen all the good things the child has done this year. That always balances out the bad things - which are not really all that bad."

I have been really good all year long but don't ask Mommy and Daddy if its true. - Sarah, 6, Colorado.

I have been good until last nite when the cat scratched me and I was mad at it and thought i caught mouse disease. - Mallori, 9, Nova Scotia.

I'm going to leave out my report card just to prove how good I've been! - Patricia, 12, Québec.

When you elves going to check on me to see if I was good. - Breannon, 7, New Jersey.

I'm sorry I was naughty this year but I can't help it if I get a really bad case of the grumpies! - Catherine, 4, Pennsylvania.

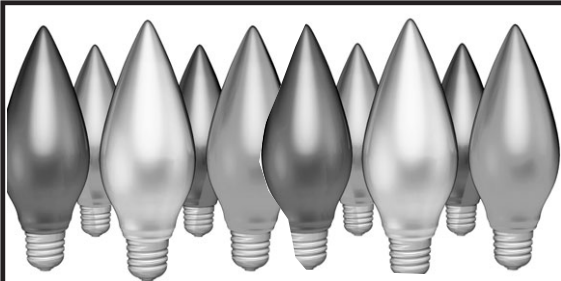
Santa, Sometimes I am disrespectful to my momma. I am sorry and I will try to be better from now on. - Daniel, 7, Mississippi.

Hi Santa, This is Jordan's mom, I told Jordan that she needs to act a little nicer if she wants you to come on Christmas. - Jordan, 3, West Virginia.

Dear Santa, I have been a good girl, but sometimes I am a little mean to my brother. Please give my aunts a good Christmas because my Aunt Trish is going to have a baby. My Aunt Kim already had a baby. - Jaydon

Dear Santa, I have been really good this year and I have tried not fight with my brother. He has been hurting and breaking my things. - Alex

Many volunteers across the world help Santa answer his letters and the following examples can really touch their hearts and are hardest for them to answer:
Continued on page 21



With Bright Wishes at Christmas

May joy uplift you, beauty inspire you and love bless you this season and every one thereafter.

Thank you for lighting up our year with your visits!

Tri-Star Title Co., LLC

213 West Main Street

We DO believe in Christmas - and in the goodness of people like you!

Merry Christmas and many thanks for your support this past year!



AT THE BIRTH OF Our Savior

We'd like to join all of you in giving thanks for the Miracle of Christmas and the many blessings we share including your friendship.

Merry Christmas!

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Robert E. Corlew
16th Judicial District

Cannon and
Rutherford Counties

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Photo Provided

This photo was printed several years ago in the Cannon Courier and left at our office. Children are unknown.

Santa Letters

i love you guys and i hope you get me my presents. ive been so good this year i have cancer and i dont know if im going to live for christmas. please right back, luv kristin - Kristin, 7, Alberta.

But most of all I wish my Mommy could be here for Christmas but she is serving our country overseas. Please give her a note that says "I hope you are safe." - Angelica, 6, Washington.

I know you probably can't, but can you get my dad to come back to England for Christmas because he lives in Australia and I haven't seen him for 3 years. - Clare, 9, London, United Kingdom.

I wish we could have a Christmas this year. My mom and dad work so hard but can not do it this year. They don't now how to get help. I just wish me and my brothers and mom and dad could have a Christmas. We just moved here so please Santa help us come to my house and make our dream true true. - Joshua, 9, Juneau, Alaska.

I wish that my Dad didn't have to die from cancer - Tanya-Louise, 7, Ontario.

Santa I also want my parents to be nice to each other - (Name and address withheld by Santa).

Santa, you know how it is nowadays, my parents are divorced, so please put me on your special delivery list to come 2 nights, Christmas Eve at Mom's and Christmas night at Dad's. Thank you! - Ashley, 7, New York.

My dad is on disability my mommy can't work because of my sister and mommy says we not to expect much for chirstmas. but my sister needs a new bed and new clothes. and a new bike. but mommy says we have each other and that is what is important. - Toni, 8, Indianapolis, Indiana.

My grandpa just died and everyone is sad. I want everyone to be happy for Christmas. I love my whole family and just want this Christmas to be happy. - Phillip, 9, New Jersey.

Dear Santa - I wish with all my heart I had a real loving family that hugged me and kissed me and loved me and never wanted to let me go. I want to be adopted and not live in foster homes anymore. - Lynne, 9, Florida.

can you help my mum out she would like a new bed for xmas because she always goes without so that we don't miss out on anythingtheir is only my sister & I that live here we don't have a dad he walked out on us. Thank You Santa - Emma, 9, Dandenong, Australia.

Santa be carful, we have holes in the floor. peple fall in them. I want to move. Mom says we are going to live on the street. If we are not here plese leve the presets at grammas. I love you! - Elizabeth, 9, Washington.

Dear Santa, I want a German shepherd because my brother died in my mom's tummy and I don't have nobody to play with. - Jasuè

Many of the letters children are requests of things not for themselves, but for others. There are adults that can learn from their caring and unselfish attitude:

can you please help the homeless children have a good Christmas with at least something really good to eat and maybe a small toy for them to love. - Andrew, 7, Massachusetts.

My grandpa has been very sick, please bring him a special present..... - Richard, 9, California.

My great grandmother lives in a nursing home could you please send her a gift? - Adam, 8, Ontario.

I would like if you to bring a toy for my little friend at school, they don't have alot of money, so if you can't I can give her one fo mine - Christine, 6, Ontario.

Could you please bring food, blankets and toys to all of the homeless kids. I was homeless when I was younger, but I've now been adopted and have a great life! -Ricky, 8, Oregon.

please make sure all the kids that don't have families get to be with someone special on Christmas and have a wonderful memory to keep with them the rest of their lives. Also the kids that live on the streets, give them shelter and love and happiness. - Victoria, 8, Ebenhausen, Germany.

Today I picked an angel of of a Salvation Army Christmas tree at the store. It's for a little girl called Valerie. I hope that she may get many more gifts than the one I am going to get her. - Amanda, 13, Pennsylvania.

Dear Santa Claus, I would like for you to bring me a motor scooter, baby alive and for my mommy to feel better. - Josie

Dear Santa, I have been a good girl, but sometimes I am a little mean to my brother. Please give my aunts a good Christmas because my Aunt Trish is going to have a baby. My Aunt Kim already had a baby. - Jaydon

This is a special christmas cos we have our uncle saied staying from iran and he hasnt had a christmas before, cos they dont have xmas in iran only new year. It would be lovely if you could send a big sack of grownup presents for him too. - Laylee, 8, Middlesbrough, England.

Not all letters are requests for presents, some express simple curiosity about Santa, his reindeer, or the elves that make the toys. Where boys letters tend to be just lists of the toys that they want. Girls letters consist of full sentences and are more inclined to ask personal questions about Mr & Mrs. Clause.

Dear Santa, it is that time of year that you come to bring joy to the world and we give thanks to God and Jesus for the joy they bring us. I am thankful for a family who loves me so much and who gives me love. - Kristina

How are you able to get down the chimney and be in so many places throughout the world in just one short night? I need to know because my mom says her Christmas dress is too small from last year and she says there's no time to go and get all the things done in time for Christmas? - Elizabeth, 9, Alberta.

You are very kind because you give presents to the kids of the world richand poor. Your also kind because you give the poor kids live and hope to play with the toys. They have lots of fun even if they don't know what it is and they are gratfull for life. - Tamara, 11, British Columbia.

Dear Santa, I know that Christmas is about giving not getting so I will give you some cookies! - Jenna, 9, Brisbane, Australia.

Do you have to keep a car battery and some jumper cables in the back of the sleigh,you knowjust incase Rudolph's nose ever goes out? Well just to be safe I'll have some extra light bulbs next to the cookies.....60 watts ok? - Jessica, 11, California.



As another season gets in gear,
We wish you joy, we wish you cheer
And to all our friends both far and near,
We give our thanks for stopping here!

To all the folks who have been so good to
us this past year...

Merry Christmas and many thanks!



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WITH OUR GRATITUDE AT CHRISTMASTIME



As we celebrate the mesage of that very first Noel, we wish you and your family exceeding gret joy this holiday season.

We feel both honored and blessed to serve people like you!

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**Dear Santa,
I can explain. (I hope!)**

Blizzard Bites In A Jar

Crunchy and sweet, this no-bake snack mix in a jar is easy to make and fun to give. To make Blizzard Bites, you'll layer crunchy cereal, pretzels and peanuts with tangy dried cranberries and candied pineapple in a Mason jar or canning jar, then add meltable white-chocolate chips. To make Blizzard Bites snack mix, recipients melt white chocolate chips and coat the snack mixture with a sweet

holiday topping. It's simple ... and sweet! A great gift for teachers, Secret Santa exchanges or 12 Days of Christmas activities.

Ingredients
 1 cup Rice Chex-brand cereal
 1 cup pretzel twists, small
 1/2 cup dry-roasted peanuts
 1/3 cup sweetened dried cranberries (craisins)
 1/3 cup dried pineapple, coarsely chopped
 1 cup white chocolate chips
 1 canning jar, quart-size with lid and ring
 1 food storage bag, small

Instructions
 Layer cereal, pretzel twists, peanuts, cranberries and dried pineapple in a quart-sized canning jar.
 Place white chocolate chips inside food storage bag, and place on top of layered ingredients.
 Seal jar, and attach gift tag. Or, hand-write tag using the recipe below.
 Makes 3 1/2 cups snack mix.

Blizzard Bites Recipe
 Remove white chocolate chips from jar. Empty remaining jar contents into a large mixing bowl, and mix thoroughly.

Place white chocolate chips into a microwave-safe bowl. Melt white chocolate chips in the microwave for 30 seconds. Remove and stir until melted. If additional time is needed, check at 15 second intervals. (You may add 1 teaspoon solid shortening to thin chocolate mixture, if necessary.)
 Pour melted white chocolate chips over snack mixture. Stir until snack mixture is evenly coated. Spread mixture in a single layer over waxed paper, and allow to cool completely.
 Break mix into smaller pieces, and store in zipper food storage bags or an air-tight storage container.

Dear Santa, Define "good."



And warm wishes to our many best friends at this joyous time of year.
Have a Merry Christmas!
Cannon County Animal Clinic
 124 Masey Lane
Dr. Gayle Tate & Staff

Dreamsicle Cookies In A Jar

A favorite hot-weather sweet sparks a great gift in a jar: **Orange Dreamsicle Cookies!** Taking the name--and flavors--of a cool summer treat, Orange Dreamsicle Cookies are punched up with vanilla baking chips and a burst of citrus. Layered and decorated with a pretty gift tag, Orange Dreamsicle Cookies In A Jar are perfect "just-because" gift or gift basket item.

Ingredients
 1/2 cup powdered orange drink mix (Tang)
 3/4 cups granulated sugar
 1 1/2 cup vanilla baking chips
 1 3/4 cup sifted flour, all purpose
 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
 1 canning jar, quart-size with lid and ring

layer 3/4 cup granulated sugar, then 1/2 cup powdered drink mix, then 1 3/4 cup flour (mixed with 1/2 teaspoon baking soda and 1/2 teaspoon baking powder), then 1 1/2 cups vanilla baking chips. Tamp the first three layers firmly to compact ingredients.

Attach a copy of Orange Dreamsicle gift tag, or create your own tag using the recipe instructions below.

Orange Dreamsicle Cookies Recipe
 Preheat oven to 375°.

kitchen string to make the spices easy to remove from the hot cider.
Fresh orange slices add a pretty touch of color to this ruby-red hot drink. Add them to the cider in the slow cooker just before serving.

Slow Cooker Spiced Cranberry-Apple Cider

Partner apple cider with cranberry juice for a new flavor twist on a popular hot drink.
 Prep time: 5 minutes
 Total time: 4 hours, 5 minutes
 Servings: 24

1/3 cup packed brown sugar
 2 teaspoons whole allspice
 4 sticks cinnamon (3 inch)
 1 bottle (48 oz) apple cider (6 cups)
 1 bottle (48 oz) cranberry juice cocktail (6 cups)
 In 4- to 5-quart slow cooker, mix all ingredients.
 Cover; cook on Low heat setting 4 to 6 hours. Before serving, remove allspice and cinnamon.

Put the spices in a paper coffee filter and tie it with a piece of

Just what does "Noel" mean?

Noel (also spelled Nowell or Noël) is an alternative word for Christmas. It first entered the English language in the 14th century. The word comes from Middle English noel, which derives from the Old French word noël and its more common form naël. The English spelling "Noël" is taken directly from modern French, which also derives from the Old French. The ultimate Latin origin is the phrase na-ta-lis (die-s), "(day) of birth".

GREETINGS of the SEASON

It truly has been a pleasure serving you this past year!
 From all your friends at the Cannon County Courthouse!

Merry Christmas!
Lynne Foster
 Circuit Court Clerk

Joy to the World
Wayne Prater
 Trustee

Cheers!
Bobby Smith
 County Court Clerk

Happy Holidays
Susan Melton
 General Sessions Judge

Season's Greetings
Mike Gannon
 County Executive

Joyous Noel
Donald Preston
 Assessor of Property

Peace & Joy
Bill Bryson
 Clerk & Master

With Warm Wishes
Debbie Morris
 Register of Deeds

To All My Best Friends at Christmas

I'm putting on the dog to say, we hope you enjoy a great holiday. I really appreciate your loyal support.

Angela Tate Mullinax
 AWARD WINNING PET STYLIST
 124 Masey Drive Woodbury, Tn 563-4022

Peace on earth.
 Goodwill Towards All Mankind.
 Hope the holiday delivers a bundle of glad tidings to your home.

District Attorney
Bill Whitesell
and Staff of the District Attorney's Office for the 16th Judicial District

Apple Cranberry Cobbler

Simple and sweet, this large recipe can serve a crowd. Your family and guests will love the seasonal spices and the comfort of this belly-warming dessert.

Prep Time: 30 minutes
Cook Time: 45-60 minutes
Serves: 18

Ingredients:

8 cups peeled, cored and chopped apples
10 ounces frozen (thawed and drained) or fresh (washed and patted dry) cranberries
1/4 cup salted butter, cubed (1/2 stick)
1/2 cup sugar
2 cups rolled oats (quick-cooking type)
2 cups all-purpose flour (or spelt flour)
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1 tablespoon vanilla extract

1 tablespoon cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon allspice
1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
1/4 teaspoon sea salt
1/3 cup maple syrup
1/2 cup 2% milk

Whipped Topping

1 pint heavy whipping cream
3/4 teaspoon cinnamon
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/4 cup sugar

Directions

Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
Toss apples and cranberries together in a 9x13-inch glass baking dish.
In a medium-sized mixing bowl, using a pastry cutter or two knives, blend together to resemble a coarse meal:

salted butter, sugar, quick rolled oats, flour, baking powder, vanilla extract, spices, and sea salt.

Stir in maple syrup and milk. The topping mixture will become somewhat sticky. Drop the cobbler mixture by the spoonfuls onto the apple/cranberry compote and pat down slightly. Sprinkle with sugar, if desired. Bake for 45 to 60 minutes, or until apples are soft and topping has become golden.

Whip cream with cinnamon, vanilla, and sugar until stiff. Serve atop warm cobbler and melt into the "comfort zone."

Chef Suggestions

Round up some assistants and prepare the apples. Use Granny Smith, Cortland, or your family's favorite heirloom variety.

Apples and cranberries can be prepared up to 2 days in advance. Sprinkle with lemon juice, and store in an airtight container in the refrigerator.

Twenty Five ways we're different this Christmas

1. Last Christmas we were thinking about all the things we didn't have; this Christmas we are thinking about all the things we do have.
2. Last Christmas we were placing wreaths on the doors of our homes; this Christmas we are placing wreaths on the graves of our heroes.
3. Last Christmas we were letting our sons play with toy guns; this Christmas we are teaching them that guns are not toys.
4. Last Christmas we were counting our money; this Christmas we are counting our blessings.
5. Last Christmas we were lighting candles to decorate; this Christmas we are lighting candles to commemorate.
6. Last Christmas we paid lip service to the real meaning of the holidays; this Christmas we are paying homage to it.
7. Last Christmas we were digging deep into our bank accounts to find money to fly home for the holidays; this Christmas we are digging deep into our souls to find the courage to do so.
8. Last Christmas we were trying not to let annoying relatives get the best of us; this Christmas we are trying to give the best of ourselves to them.
9. Last Christmas we thought it was enough to celebrate the holidays; this Christmas we know we must also find ways to consecrate them.
10. Last Christmas we thought a man who could rush down a football field was a hero; this Christmas we know a man who rushes into a burning building is the real one.
11. Last Christmas we were thinking about the madness of the holidays; this Christmas we are thinking about the meaning of them.
12. Last Christmas we were getting on one another's

13. Last Christmas we were giving thanks for gifts from stores; this Christmas we are giving thanks for gifts from GOD.
14. Last Christmas we were wondering how to give our children all the things that money can buy; this Christmas we are wondering how to give them all the things money can't (peace, security).
15. Last Christmas we were thinking about all the pressure we are under at the office; this Christmas we are thinking about all the people who no longer have an office to go to.
16. Last Christmas we were singing carols; this Christmas we are singing anthems.
17. Last Christmas we were thinking how good it would feel to be affluent; this Christmas we are thinking how good it feels to be alive.
18. Last Christmas we thought angels were in heaven; this Christmas we know they are right here on earth.
19. Last Christmas we were contemplating all the changes we wanted to make in the new year; this Christmas we are contemplating all the changes we will have to make in this new reality.
20. Last Christmas we believed in the power of the pocketbook; this Christmas we believe in the power of prayer.
21. Last Christmas we were sharing / spreading / listening to gossip; this Christmas we are sharing / spreading and listening to the Gospel.
22. Last Christmas we were complaining about how much of our earnings went to taxes; this Christmas we comprehend that freedom isn't free.

23. Last Christmas we valued things that were costly; this Christmas we value things that are holy.
24. Last Christmas the people we idolized wore sports uniforms; this Christmas the people we idolize wear police, firefighter and military uniforms.
25. Last Christmas peace on earth is something we prayed for on Sunday morning; now it's something we pray for every day.



A Time For Giving

In this season of giving, we'd like to offer you our very best wishes for a deeply satisfying holiday season. For the gift of your patronage this past year, we are sincerely grateful.

Boyd's Garage

3030 Gassaway Road
Boyd Pitts, Owner

Very practical and funny uses for fruitcakes!

- Paint a few white and place them outside on the grass so people won't park on your lawn.
- Use it as building material. (This is actually what the Ancient Egyptians used to build the Great Pyramids.)
- Keep one under your pillow for home defense.
- Send one to the junk mail company with a note asking them to take you

- off their list.
- It's colorful, use it as a Yule Log.
- Carve the Presidents' faces in it and submit as a science or art project.
- Give one to your boss and tell him it's a life preserver.
- Use it as a base for flower arrangements.
- Donate to the local airport for use as airliner wheel blocks.

- Grind a few up and give it back to your in-laws in a bag marked "lawn fertilizer."
- For a community project, sink a few in the ocean and build an artificial reef.
- Tie one to each foot when you walk through deep snow to keep your feet dry.

love
peace
Joy

blessings
of the
season

Wishing you and your family all the gifts of this magical time of year.

In the spirit of this holy season, we'd like to extend our best wishes to you and your family, along with our thanks for your goodwill all year long.

Jean Anne & Judge Mark Rogers

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

There's no place we'd rather spend the holidays, than here among our neighbors and friends!

Merry Christmas!

Town of Woodbury

Harold Patrick, Mayor

Aldermen:
Charlie Harrell, Dottie Duggin, JoAnn Davis,
Faye Northcutt-Knox, Lois Larimer and Adam Melton

Delicious Christmas recipes for entertaining

Heavenly Biscuits

3 pkg. dry yeast
5 c. self-rising flour
½ c. lukewarm water
¼ c. sugar
1 c. Crisco
2 c. lukewarm buttermilk

Dissolve yeast in arm water and set aside. Mix flour, sugar and soda and cut in Crisco. Add to yeast with buttermilk. No need to let the recipe rise. Bake at 450° until golden brown.
*Note: Will hold in refrigerator up to one week and still taste delicious.

Sorghum Pecan Bars

2 cups all purpose flour
½ teaspoon baking soda
½ cup light brown sugar
½ cup butter, softened
¾ cup Tennessee sorghum

syrop
1 large egg
2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
1 cup pecans, chopped

Frosting

½ cup butter, softened
2 ounces cream cheese
1 tablespoon light brown sugar
3 tablespoons Tennessee sorghum syrup
¼ cup + 2 tablespoons confectioners' sugar
Toasted pecan halves for garnish

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Grease an 8x8 inch baking pan and set aside. In a medium bowl, combine flour and soda. In a large bowl, blend sugar and butter to form a grainy paste. Add syrup, egg and

vanilla. Beat at medium speed until smooth. Add flour mixture and pecans. Blend at low speed just until combined.

Pour batter into a baking pan and smooth top with spatula. Bake 40 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Cool in pan for 15 minutes, then invert onto cooling rack. Cool completely before frosting.

Meanwhile, in a medium bowl, cream butter and cream cheese. Add brown sugar and sorghum, beating until smooth. Reduce mixer speed and slowly add confectioners' sugar, mixing until smooth. Spread frosting on cooled bars, cut and garnish each with a toasted pecan half.
Yield: 12-16 bars

Asparagus Casserole

2 (15 oz.) cans asparagus spears, drained
2 c. Ritz cracker crumbs
1 can cream of mushroom soup
1 c. milk
2 c. grated cheddar cheese
3 tbsp. butter

Spread ½ cracker crumbs on bottom of 11 x 8 x 2-inch casserole dish. Spread asparagus spears over crumbs. Combine milk, cheese and soup/ pour over asparagus. Sprinkle remaining crumbs over mixture. Top with butter which has been cut in small pieces.

Bake at 350° for 20 minutes or until mixture bubbles through crumbs.

Orange Juice Cake

1 box butter cake
1-3 oz. box French Vanilla instant pudding
½ cup oil
1 cup orange juice
4 whole eggs
Combine and mix for 2 minutes. Bake at 350° for 45 minutes. Optional: Grease or spray a bundt pan. Sprinkle with pecans in bottom of pan and pour batter on top.

Glaze

1 ½ sticks of butter
1/3 cup plus 2 tbsp. orange juice
1 ½ cups sugar

Boil for 2 minutes and pour glaze over the hot cake.

Buckeye Drops

1 lb. confectioner's sugar
1 stick butter
2 c. peanut butter
4-5 tbsp. milk
¼ bar paraffin
1-12 oz. bag chocolate chips
Toothpicks

Mix sugar, peanut butter, butter and milk using a spoon or your hands. Roll into small balls. Mixture will be stiff.

Melt chocolate and paraffin together in top of double broiler. Spear each ball with a toothpick and dip in chocolate, leaving some peanut butter showing at top.

Place in refrigerator on wax paper-lined cookie sheet.

Christmas Is for Love

by: Author Unknown, Source Unknown

Christmas is for love. It is for joy, for giving and sharing, for laughter, for reuniting with family and friends, for tinsel and brightly decorated packages. But mostly, Christmas is for love. I had not believed this until a small elf-like student with wide-eyed innocent eyes and soft rosy cheeks gave me a wondrous gift one

Christmas.

Mark was an 11 year old orphan who lived with his aunt, a bitter middle aged woman greatly annoyed with the burden of caring for her dead sister's son. She never failed to remind young Mark, if it hadn't been for her generosity, he would be a vagrant, homeless waif. Still, with all the scolding and chilliness at home, he was a sweet and gentle child.

I had not noticed Mark particularly until he began staying after class each day (at the risk of arousing his aunt's anger, I later found) to help me straighten up the room. We did this quietly and comfortably, not speaking much, but enjoying the solitude of that hour of the day. When we did talk, Mark spoke mostly of his mother.

Though he was quite small when she died, he remembered a kind, gentle, loving woman, who always spent much time with him.

As Christmas drew near however, Mark failed to stay after school each day. I looked forward to his coming, and when the days passed and he continued to scamper hurriedly from the room after class, I stopped him one afternoon and asked why he no longer helped me in the room. I told him how I had missed him, and his large gray eyes lit up eagerly as he replied, "Did you really miss me?"

I explained how he had been my best helper. "I was making you a surprise," he whispered confidentially. "It's for Christmas." With that, he became embarrassed and dashed from the room. He didn't stay after school any more after that.

Finally came the last school day before Christmas. Mark crept slowly into the room late that afternoon with his hands concealing something behind his back. "I have your present," he said timidly when I looked up. "I hope you like it." He held out his hands, and there lying in his small palms was a tiny wooden box.

"Its beautiful, Mark. Is there something in it?" I asked opening the top to look inside.

"Oh you can't see what's in it," He replied, "and you can't touch it, or taste it or feel it, but mother always said it makes you feel good all the time, warm on cold nights, and safe when you're all alone."

I gazed into the empty box. "What is it Mark," I asked gently, "that will make me feel so good?" "It's love," he whispered softly, "and mother always said it's best when you give it away." And he turned and quietly left the room.

So now I keep a small box crudely made of scraps of wood on the piano in my living room and only smile as inquiring friends raise quizzical eyebrows when I explain to them that there is love in it.


Yes, Christmas is for gaiety, mirth and song, for good and wondrous gifts. But mostly, Christmas is for love.

Make It MERRY!



As we step into the holiday season, we'd like to thank all of you who have given us much cause for celebration this year.


The Hair Shop
Pam Sherrell



*Fill your holidays with Love & Joy!
Capture the true message of Christmas...The Message of Love!*

ESTES BUS SERVICE, INC.
Mark, Penny, Brittany and Kyle

A Message of Thanks At The Holiday Season



*We're feeling merry this holiday season,
And your kind friendship is the reason.
For your support we're grateful, too
Because we wouldn't be here without all of you!*

SMILE CREATIONS
Dr. Susan Bennett Allison & Staff
313 West High Street

Nail Down A Great Season!

While the holiday spirit is building, we'd like to jump in with our best wishes and gratitude. We truly appreciate your helping to make this year a merry one for us.



Reed's Builders Supply
831 McMinnville Hwy. Jeff Reed, Owner

Wishing You A Gifted Season!

Peace. Harmony.

Love. Joy.

May all the gifts of the season be yours to cherish throughout the holiday and beyond.
For your business and goodwill we are ever so grateful.

Woodbury Insurance Agency
234 McMinnville Hwy.



Kids Say the Darndest Things: Funniest Letters to Santa Claus

Before we were grown-ups (in every sense of the word), we still believed in Santa Claus and some of us even sent him letters to the North Pole. Kids in Norway, it seems, still do that every year.

The Daily Mail says the Norwegian postal office receives an estimated 30,000 letters a year destined to the jolly old fellow who brings presents on Christmas night.

Aside from the fact that this is a huge number, especially given that kids these days could probably contact Santa easier via other channels (e-mail seems the most convenient option), the letters in themselves make for quite an amazing read, the tab says.

Some of them are very funny, while some are, well, childish in the demands they make from Santa. Others contain requests that not even the most compliant of parents could fulfill, like the return of a deceased parent or a toy that's been lost for years.

Other kids, though, don't write to ask for things, but to try and find out things about Santa himself, like what he does the rest of the year, how he makes the sleigh fly and whether he knows other "languages" than "Ho ho ho."

The letters are published in full in "Dear Santa" by Birger Sivertsen, now out on book shelves, the British publication says.

File this under "funniest": Elsie would like Santa to make it so that she can eat sausage at dinner all year round, while Violet says she doesn't want to have "holes" in her teeth so that she can eat as much candy as she wants.

Ellen says, "I want ducks with no teeth," adding that she's willing to negotiate on that if it's too hard a task for Santa. "PS: I'll take geese if it's a hard task - but remember, no teeth!" she writes.

"Could you make me a lot prettier than my friend Sabrina? That's my biggest and only wish!" Diana writes.

Cicilia, like so many other kids in the world, would like a pet - not just any pet, though, but one of those adorable piglets and only on the condition Santa himself talks to her mom about keeping it.

"Do you have baby pigs in store? If I can have a baby pig from you, that's what I wish for - but you have to sort it out with Mum," she writes. Double the challenge for Santa.

File this under "awkward:" one kid asks Santa to send Mrs. Santa instead of coming himself because, he says, he's afraid of him.

A more forward-thinking Callum would like Santa's job when he's done with it, while another boy wants to know whether Santa ever changes clothes and, more importantly, if he ever washes.

Sonny, it seems, is afraid Santa is encouraging in illicit tendencies. "When you give us money, do you print it yourself? Isn't it fake money which is against the law?" he writes.

Of course, there are also questions about Santa's ability to know which kid has been good and which naughty for the past year, whether he keeps all the children's names on a computer and, if so, what software he uses for it, and funny requests for presents in "advance" for next year from children who admit they haven't been good.

two hands to the children of my village.

It began there, and my reasons for doing it haven't changed. I still enjoy the look of wonder and excitement on the faces of the children of the world.

While I know that all of the children writing letters to me are looking for something, it is something I can give. I know they all want something, as I know that you want something. You can't fool old St. Nick, my dear!

You want this gift to be returned.

The only gift this Christmas that is meant to be given back, and shared with all. Even I, in all my years of giving without seeming to receive, know that Altruism is only a fable. No one, not even me, escapes the need for balance, my dear, Aaron. I receive the feeling in my heart of knowing that I have done everything I could to make the children of the world smile. And you want to receive the love of your fellow human beings. Not a bad wish, considering...

Unfortunately, I don't think you understand the way love works, yet. You see, I can't distribute your love to the world, only you can do that. You are the only one with the power to give what you have been given.

Your gifts are numerous, as are the gifts of all humanity, and if you wish to share what you have, you must do it yourself.

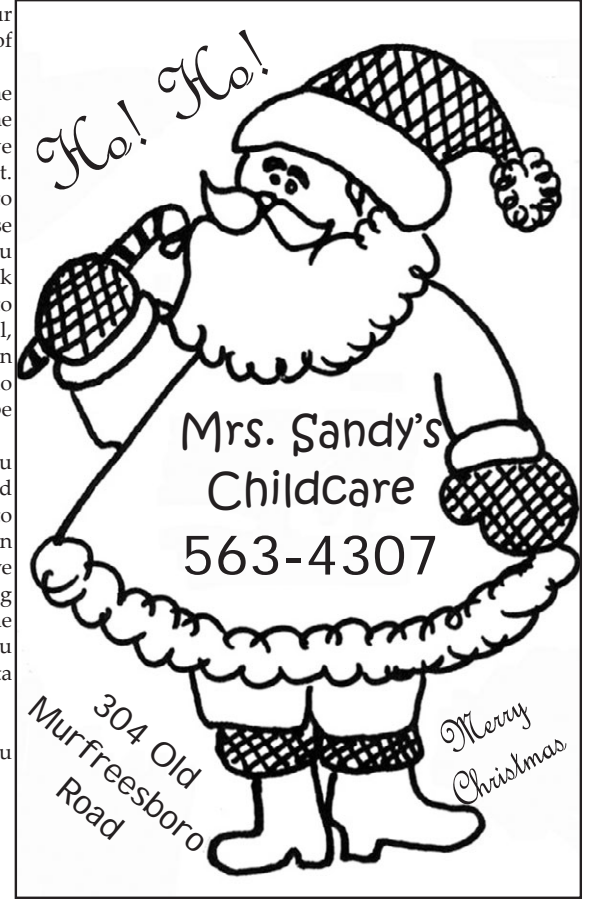
However, I can help, in one small regard. I hope you don't mind, but I borrowed your email address, and sent this to as many people as I could from there. (By the way, you should have included "Faster Computer" on your list! It's time to move out of the Stone Age!)

The main reason I've done this, is because I'm not the one that you should've asked to distribute your gift. If you want to give love to the world, start with those you love. Tell them how you feel about them, and ask them to help. Ask them to contribute their love as well, and give it to some soul in need this Christmas. Who knows, kid. You may still be able to get your wish.

So, in closing, I wish you all the best, Aaron, and much luck in the years to come. Your path is not an easy one, but I think you've chosen well. I'll be seeing you next year, and in the coming years, until you decide you don't want Santa Claus to be real.

Hoping to hear from you soon,
Merry Christmas!

Santa Claus



Letter From Santa

~ Aaron Haiduk ~

Dear Aaron~

I was surprised to get your letter this year. I was under the impression that you had succumbed to that saddest of childhood illnesses, Disbelief. And while I never actually heard you say you didn't believe in me, I haven't gotten a letter from you since you were eight. Your letters have been missed at the North Pole, (By the way, Mrs. Claus asked me to tell you that she still has one of your letters in her scrapbook. If only I knew how to make Saturday and Sunday 48 hours apiece!) Your request this year, however, made me pause. I thought, for old time's sake, I should write back, and tell you personally why I can't bring your hearts desire this Christmas.

If I understand your letter, you want to give the world Love. You want me to distribute your love to the people of the world who have, but sadly, rarely use, this all important of human virtues. It is noble of you to wish to give this way, as the need for it is growing ever greater, every year. And every year, I hope to be able grant your wish, but it just is not in my power. And to say that you have enough love for the world is a grand boast, although at the same time, perfectly reasonable. All of us have the ability to do so, if we only choose. It is my belief that of all of the times of the year, Christmas is the one where your gift should be unnecessary.

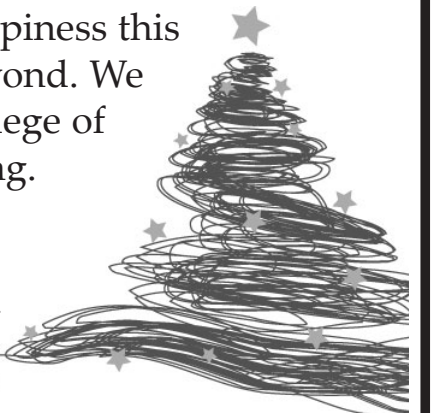
Sadly, though, I watch the world, and see how jaded we have all become. Yes, Aaron, even I fall victim to it on occasion. I try to remember why I got into the suit in the first place, and remember the old days when I was delivering toys I had made with my own

COLOR IT MERRY!

Wishing you every happiness this holiday season and beyond. We thank you for the privilege of serving you all year long.

MIKE JOHNSON
Southern Heating
& Air

(615) 563-8672 or 615-584-0737



Blessings of The Season

May your heart and home be blessed with the true spirit of this special time of year. We know that we are truly blessed to have neighbors like you! Merry Christmas!

Bruce Todd Appraisals

Murfreesboro 631-7350



The Magic of Christmas

Christmas waves a magic wand over this world, and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful.

Norman Vincent Peale

Cannon County Board of Education

Barbara Parker, Dir. of Schools
Randy Gannon, Board Chairman

Members: Randy Gannon, Bruce Daniel, Nathan Sanders, Chris Blackburn and Roy Parker

Real stories of meaningful Christmas gifts

In the November 2004 issue of The Family Room, we asked our readers to send us stories of their most meaningful Christmas gifts. Many readers responded and shared personal moments of tender love and thoughtfulness. We have selected some of their stories to share. May your hearts be blessed and inspired as you read these touching stories. Merry Christmas!

A lantern of love

Melissa, Harrod, Ohio

My most meaningful gift was from an elderly couple in the church that doesn't have any children of their own but are the grandparents of all. They gave my husband and me a lantern made from a mason jar with some wood that he had shaped himself. The lantern has a little light in the jar so it can be plugged in. It's nothing fancy, but it means the world to us to think they took their time to make us a gift. Something so simple made us realize that money can't buy something so special. My nephew was getting married shortly afterwards and when his fiancé saw it, she requested two for her wedding. We both would say that gift is our most treasured.

A little something from the grandparents

Karen, Tallahassee, Florida

My parents have always (and I mean always) gone out of their way to make our Christmases special and memorable. The one that comes to my memory the quickest was 25 years ago. As a newly married couple— young, naïve, and poor—my husband and I found ourselves pregnant. My parents were so excited, even though they knew we weren't prepared (financially or emotionally) to be parents.

On Christmas morning, the whole family gathered and we began the chaotic tradition of everyone opening their presents at the same time. As we began to open one small box from my parents, everyone stopped what they were doing to watch us. Out of the box, between mounds of tissue, came dollhouse-sized furniture: a crib, a playpen, and a highchair. It was accompanied by a note letting us know the real baby furniture would arrive before the baby!

I still have those small pieces of furniture and when I see them, I smile and sometimes cry all over again as I remember the love and generosity showered on us by first-

time grandparents!

A simple nativity

Laura, Mackinaw, Illinois

The first year my husband and I were married, my parents gave us a nativity set. It even included a baggie filled with straw to lay in the bottom of the stable for the full effect. It wasn't an expensive nativity, probably around \$20. However, it has become the most important part of decorating our home at Christmas time. It was a very simple gift, yet it is something that we have put out all nine years of our marriage. We even involve our children in getting it out. We talk as a family about what each piece means and why we choose a very prominent place to put the nativity in our home. It is a very special item to us because it came from my parents our first Christmas, but even more because it is a strong reminder to us of the very first Christmas.

Last year I was given a much nicer, more expensive nativity, and my mom asked if she could have the one she had given me nine years earlier for her home. I thought about it, but just couldn't let go of the very special nativity we've had these nine years ... it has too many memories attached and is such a special part of Christmas tradition in our family. Instead, I bought my parents a new nativity with prayers that it will become a special part of their Christmas just as our nativity is for ours.

We really are married

Jeanne, Toms River, New Jersey

Neither my husband nor I had ever seen our marriage license. I had just turned 18 years of age when we married. With all the excitement surrounding the wedding, who could remember anything about a marriage license? We always joked that we might not actually be married at all. After 20 years of joking, I thought a great gift for Christmas would be to locate our license. After obtaining a copy of our license, I had it set in a frame along with two Norman Rockwell paintings. (The one with the two children on a bench with his arm around her and the one with two elderly people sipping tea.) It would have been the most thoughtful and memorable gift I could ever think of getting, so I gave.

A stamp of approval

Cindy, Alexandria, Minnesota

Since my kids are getting older and more independent, I have been able to find time for hobbies again. Rubber stamping has been my hobby of choice for the past few years. When I receive a catalogue of stamping supplies, I often go through and create a wish list for myself.

Last Christmas, my husband found the wish list I had made, contacted the supplier, ordered the items, picked them up, and wrapped them. When I opened that gift, it was the most amazing surprise. He had taken the time to truly think about what I enjoy, and then went way out of his way to purchase the items I had wished for. The amount of thought he had put into that purchase truly showed me that he does pay attention to the details. I have always known that I am truly blessed to have such a great husband.

Enjoying Christ's bounty

Kelly, Ohio

My husband was on temporary disability due to sickness for a long period of time extending over Christmas, 2001. It was a very difficult time for our family in many ways, including financially. We just had a new baby, closely following the birth of another 17 months before. We also have two pre-teen children. Just prior to Christmas, our church office called and said they were aware of our situation. They asked me to make up a list of things that each family member (including my husband and me) would like for Christmas. This was very humbling. We sat down and made the list, and I gave it to the church. A couple of weeks later, we received a phone call from the office telling us that there were many presents to be picked up for the children at the office. They also had a check for my husband and me, which included enough money to pay for some bills and buy each other something.

In addition, another family at the church brought in a large gift basket and bags of presents for everyone. There was even a disposable camera included for us to capture some great family memories. This ended up being the most bountiful Christmas ever! Tears fill my eyes now as I think of it. Our children learned firsthand that Jesus loves us and does not forget us in times of trouble.

Knitting for Barbie

Candy, Bell Buckle, Tennessee

It has been almost 42 years, but I have never forgotten my most meaningful Christmas gift. My parents gave me my first Barbie doll that Christmas. When we gathered for Christmas dinner and gifts at my grandparents' home, they handed me my gift. Inside the wrapping was a Barbie doll case full of clothes that my grandmother had hand-knit for my new doll. It was the most beautiful gift of love that I've ever received! I am now 52 years old and have never forgotten the hours that Grandma must have spent lovingly knitting each and every stitch just for me!

One last cruise

Solomon, Fairfield, California

I am in the process of making this gift. It will be a DVD slide-show collection of my parents' many pictures from cruise vacations since 1990. The memories from these pictures will be scanned into a digital format and the slide shows will have music in the background.

Why is this important? My dad has terminal cancer and time is extremely short. They just returned from what could possibly be their last cruise together. My mom liked our gift to my dad on Father's Day that had some pictures of their grandkids in a photo story. She wanted me to do the same for them so that they can have this as a memory of their retirement together. It will be presented to them sooner than Christmas, as I do not know how much time he has left.



Not a creature was stirring...

To all our friends, neighbors and creatures large and small, we wish a very merry season followed by a peaceful and harmonious year.

For your trust and goodwill, we are truly grateful!

Woodbury Veterinary Hospital

102 N. Dillon Street
615-563-8387 (VETS)

Lewanda Lance Jordan, DVM

A note of thanks

to our Customers & Neighbors,

Associates & Friends

at the holiday season

With thanks at Christmas, to all the folks who have passed by this way. We thank you for your valued business and wish you all the merriest holiday season ever!

Woodbury Flowers

Main Street
Carl and Opal Jones

Continued on page 27

Merry Christmas & Many Thanks!

What makes the holiday season so special for us?

It's the opportunity to let all of you know just how much we appreciate your friendship and patronage throughout the year.

FNB
FIRST NATIONAL BANK
WOODBURY, TENNESSEE
MEMBER FDIC 563-8011

PEACE ON EARTH

The beauty of the winter season reminds us of how blessed we are in so many ways, including the friendship of neighbors like you.

Merry Christmas!

Woodbury Farmer's Co-Op

400 McMinnville Hwy.

Parental pillow
Ron and Linda

One of the most meaningful gifts I have received is a pillow with my parents' picture printed in the middle and old buttons sewn around the quilted patchwork edges with beautiful matching fabric on the back. It was a gift from my 36-year-old daughter who loves to create art in fabrics as her medium. I love to look at my parents often since they are no longer living, and I miss them so!

Pictures are worth a thousand words

Oneida, Liberty Township, Ohio

The most significant gift I received for Christmas was a photo album from my husband. I have always enjoyed taking pictures but have a bad habit of not developing the film. I had been a childcare provider in my home for four years and had accumulated tons of non-developed film of my children and the children that had become mine through my business. My husband took the film and got it all developed and made a photo album for me that consisted of four years of photos. He presented this to me on Christmas.

This was the best gift I ever received. I still can't figure out how he found the time to put each picture in this photo album between work and home, but somehow and some way he did it. I know it took dedication and love for him to do this for me. Unlike most Christmas gifts that end up in garage sales or given to Good Will, this one I still have, and will have for many years to come.

Prettier things

Karen, Houston, Texas

As a tweenie tomboy, moving into the adult world was a dicey proposition. I badly wanted a pair of riding boots one Christmas. However, one of the first presents under the tree that year was a beautifully wrapped, tiny box from my father to his only daughter—me. I thought it was perfume, the first one I'd own. I saved that present to open last to increase the anticipation. The unveiling revealed a crystal prism about three inches long. I still have the prism some 35-plus years later as a loving reminder that things are not always what they seem. Sometimes God makes even prettier things than man, and that fathers are the best!

Remembering the Weekend to Remember

Eric and Dolores, Pennsylvania

It was 1997, the worst year of our marriage. We had been married for nine years and had three children. I finally graduated from college and asked Eric for a divorce. Never had either one of us felt so trapped, constantly doing things to hurt each other before the other could cause the hurt. What we didn't realize was that even though we were hurting each other, we loved each other to a depth that only God could understand.

The night I asked for the divorce, Eric left the house and returned about an hour later, proclaiming that he loved me and was willing to fight for our marriage. That October, we went to the Weekend to Remember marriage conference with Bill and Pam Mutz as the speakers. It was amazing! Everything came out that weekend, and we had the tools to make the journey to a biblical marriage.

That year for Christmas, Eric made a special gift for me. In 1987, he had proposed to me in a gazebo in a nearby town the week before Christmas. The gift Eric made for me included a small ceramic gazebo, in which he had put a glittery tree, hung miniature working lights and placed a man and woman holding

hands. This gift represents to me the hope of renewed love and promises yet to come of what marriage and family are. Every time I look at it and turn on the lights, I am reminded that I am loved by my wonderful husband and by a God who is full of grace.

Sheri's wings

Shani

The most meaningful Christmas gift I have received is angel wings for my baby sister. You see, Sheri was born with Spina Bifida, a neural tube defect that results in paralysis. She died when she was 24.

The 24 years that my family had with Sheri were filled with lessons of love, triumph, hope, despair, and joy. Through it all, Sheri was a fighter. She had such a will to live. During her final days, when she was so ill and tired, she would still smile as I walked into her room. She was never down. Despite her situation, she brought joy and laughter to our family. She also brought restoration to our parents. Unfortunately, they divorced after 28 years of marriage. But Sheri made it her mission to create and leave a legacy for her sisters, nieces, and nephews.

Despite circumstances, families can come together and still be one. The day Sheri died, she received her angel wings. Wings that stretch beneath me on my low days and pick me up when I'm feeling down. Wings that carry my family during the hardships and daily cares of life.

Sheri's gift was restoration, love, life, and hope. Hope for a future for my children and my sister's children that they would know their grandparents, despite a divorce, and that they would love them as well as their grandparents' mates. She gave me the greatest lesson of my life. She gave me the gift of calling her my sister!

Something blue

Laurel, Ontario, Canada

One of my most meaningful Christmas gifts was from my husband last year. At the end of our gift opening with our daughters on Christmas afternoon, he informed me that I had one more to open but that I had to find it first. Inside the Christmas stocking, which we had received as a wedding gift, was a tiny wrapped box with a ring that brought tears to my eyes for a moment. It is now a constant reminder of his love for me.

To understand the significance of this gift, we have to back up in time to 1985, three days before our wedding. For Christmas

that year he gave me a blue star sapphire ring because it was my favorite gem for a ring, even though it would not have been his choice for me. This was the "something blue" which I wore as we were wed.

Over the years, the two tiny side diamonds had fallen out, and yet I still wore the ring. Then in 2000, while on vacation, the star sapphire fell out and was lost. The cost to repair the ring seemed too much to me, so the ring sat in my jewelry box for three years. Until ... secretly he took my ring to a jeweler and had the stones replaced and then hid it from me.

What was my greatest gift? Really, it was his love!

Surprise doll from the Salvation Army

Carol

I was the youngest child in a family with five children. My father left my mother when I was 5 years old. Mother gave us the best she could. Christmas was a real family time for us. We had no money, but we had each other. My older brothers would go into the woods and cut down a cedar tree. One Christmas when I was 6, Mother said we had no money for gifts, but she bought us some oranges and candy. This was okay with me, but about 8:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve we heard a knock on the door and some people from the Salvation Army brought me a doll, a few other goodies, and food for the family. I was so excited. Today, Christmas still has a very special meaning to me. I am 64 now, but Christmas is His birthday and

although now we are blessed to be able to afford a few gifts, Jesus was, is, and will always be my reason to celebrate Christmas.

Teacup exchange

Shauna, Beaverton, Oregon

Finding the perfect gift for that treasured family member or friend is always a challenge. Over the years my success has been hit and miss. However, last year I experienced success! I found the perfect gift for my friend.

On impulse, listening to that small voice in my heart, I offered her one teacup from my great grandmother's china set. She was overwhelmed at my generosity in being willing to offer her one of my family treasures. In response, she gave to me a teacup from her grandmother's china set. A gift I treasure with my heart. With each dusting, I

am reminded to pray for my friend and relish the memories of our friendship. Her gift of a teacup is my treasure of our friendship. We didn't buy each other anything, but we gave from our hearts. And that is a perfect Christmas gift.

Village of love

Jenelle, Grand Rapids, Michigan

My father was ill for much of my life, and was a bit rough around the edges. He didn't know anything else. He was who he was. He passed away several years ago now, but it's his gift that I will always treasure.

As a teenager I was somehow attracted to a lighted house from a Christmas village set, so I bought it. It was a pretty lonely village, but it was mine. The next Christmas I

found several presents under the tree from my father. I was taken back at the tags because my mom always did the Christmas shopping.

My father had gone out and bought several new buildings so that I could have a fuller village. He continued the tradition of adding to my village for a few more years, until his health deteriorated too drastically to shop.

So when I set out the Christmas village again this year, I will smile, pause, and remember my father's unexpected gifts and how much I love and miss him.

Merry Christmas!

Thanks For Your Patronage

With best wishes to one and all for a merry and bright holiday season.

Old Feed Store Antique Mall

310 W. Water St. Woodbury
www.oldfeedstore.com
563-2108

Merry Christmas!

Wishing you with all sincerity
PEACE and JOY, LOVE and PROSPERITY, HOPE, CONTENTMENT and GOOD HEALTH, HARMONY, GOODWILL and WEALTH.

Thanks to all my students and bus drivers:
Jeff and Tracie Estes - Bus #27
Teddy Taylor - Bus #15 Barbara Young - Bus # 22
Substitutes Larry Sanders and T.J. Daniels
And also to Cannon County Board of Education!

RICKY and BONNIE ESTES

*May you have tenderness for the past,
courage for the present, and hope for the future.
It is our fervent wish that every cup may overflow
with blessings rich and eternal,
and that every path may lead to peace.*

Woodbury Funeral Home
Kenny Gilley, J.H. Larimer & Staff

A touching Christmas story from 1881

Pa never had much compassion for the lazy or those who squandered their means and then never had enough for the necessities. But for those who were genuinely in need, his heart was as big as all outdoors. It was from him that I learned the greatest joy in life comes from giving, not from receiving.

It was Christmas Eve 1881. I was fifteen years old and feeling like the world had caved in on me because there just hadn't been enough money to buy me the rifle that I'd wanted for Christmas. We did the chores early that night for some reason. I just figured Pa wanted a little extra time so we could read in the Bible.

After supper was over I took my boots off and stretched out in front of the fireplace and waited for Pa to get down the old Bible. I was still feeling sorry for myself and, to be honest, I wasn't in much of a mood to read Scriptures. But Pa didn't get

the Bible, instead he bundled up again and went outside. I couldn't figure it out because we had already done all the chores. I didn't worry about it long though, I was too busy wallowing in self-pity.

Soon Pa came back in. It was a cold clear night out and there was ice in his beard. "Come on, Matt," he said. "Bundle up good, it's cold out tonight." I was really upset then. Not only wasn't I getting the rifle for Christmas, now Pa was dragging me out in the cold, and for no earthly reason that I could see. We'd already done all the chores, and I couldn't think of anything else that needed doing, especially not on a night like this.

But I knew Pa was not very patient at one dragging one's feet when he'd told them to do something, so I got up and put my boots back on and got my cap, coat, and mittens. Ma gave me a mysterious smile as I opened the door to leave the house. Something was up, but I didn't know what.

Outside, I became even more dismayed. There in front of the house was the work team, already hitched to the big sled. Whatever it was we were going to do wasn't going to be a short, quick, little job. I could tell. We never hitched up this sled unless we were going to haul a big load.

Pa was already up on the seat, reins in hand. I reluctantly climbed up beside him. The cold was already biting at me. I wasn't happy. When I was on, Pa pulled the sled around the house and stopped in front of the woodshed. He got off and I followed. "I think we'll put on the high sideboards," he said. "Here, help me." The high sideboards! It had been a bigger job than I wanted to do with just the low sideboards on, but whatever it was we were going to do would be a lot bigger with the high sideboards on.

After we had exchanged the sideboards, Pa went into the woodshed and came out with an armload of wood--

the wood I'd spent all summer hauling down from the mountain, and then all Fall sawing into blocks and splitting. What was he doing? Finally I said something. "Pa," I asked, "what are you doing?" You been by the Widow Jensen's lately?" he asked. The Widow Jensen lived about two miles down the road. Her husband had died a year or so before and left her with three children, the oldest being eight. Sure, I'd been by, but so what? "Yeah," I said, "Why?" "I rode by just today," Pa said. "Little Jakey was out digging around in the woodpile trying to find a few chips. They're out of wood, Matt."

That was all he said and then he turned and went back into the woodshed for another armload of wood. I followed him. We loaded the sled so high that I began to wonder if the horses would be able to pull it. Finally, Pa called a halt to our loading, then we went to the smoke house and Pa took down a big ham and a side of bacon. He handed them to me and told me to put them in the sled and wait.

When he returned he was carrying a sack of flour over his right shoulder and a smaller sack of something in his left hand. "What's in the little sack?" I asked. "Shoes. They're out of shoes. Little Jakey just had gunny sacks wrapped around his feet when he was out in the woodpile this morning. I got the children a little candy too. It just wouldn't be Christmas without a little candy."

We rode the two miles to Widow Jensen's pretty much in silence. I tried to think through what Pa was doing. We didn't have much by worldly standards. Of course, we did have a big woodpile, though most of what was left now was still in the form of logs that I would have to saw into blocks and split before we could use it. We also had meat and flour, so we could spare that, but I knew we didn't have any money, so why was Pa buying them shoes and candy?

Really, why was he doing any of this? Widow Jensen had closer neighbors than us; it shouldn't have been our concern. We came in from the blind side of the Jensen house and unloaded the wood as quietly as possible, then we took the meat and flour and shoes to the door. We knocked. The door opened a crack and a timid voice said, "Who is it?" "Lucas Miles, Ma'am, and my son, Matt. Could we come in for a bit?"

Widow Jensen opened the door and let us in. She had a blanket wrapped around her shoulders. The children were wrapped in another and were sitting in front of the fireplace by a very small fire that hardly gave off any heat at all. Widow Jensen fumbled with a match and finally lit the lamp. "We brought you a few things, Ma'am," Pa said and set down the sack of flour. I put the meat on the table. Then Pa handed her the sack that had the shoes in it.

She opened it hesitantly and took the shoes out one pair at a time. There was a pair for her and one for each of the children--sturdy shoes, the best, shoes that would last. I watched her carefully. She bit her lower lip to keep it from trembling and then tears filled her eyes and started running down her cheeks. She looked up at Pa like she wanted to say something, but it wouldn't come out.

"We brought a load of wood too, Ma'am," Pa said. He turned to me and said, "Matt, go bring in enough to last awhile. Let's get that fire up to size and heat this place up." I wasn't the same person when I went back out to bring in the wood. I had a big lump in my throat and as much as I hate to admit it, there were tears in my eyes too.

In my mind I kept seeing those three kids huddled around the fireplace and their mother standing there with tears running down her cheeks with so much gratitude in her heart that she couldn't speak. My heart

swelled within me and a joy that I'd never known before, filled my soul. I had given at Christmas many times before, but never when it had made so much difference. I could see we were literally saving the lives of these people.

I soon had the fire blazing and everyone's spirits soared. The kids started giggling when Pa handed them each a piece of candy and Widow Jensen looked on with a smile that probably hadn't crossed her face for a long time. She finally turned to us. "God bless you," she said. "I know the Lord has sent you. The children and I have been praying that he would send one of his angels to spare us."

In spite of myself, the lump returned to my throat and the tears welled up in my eyes again. I'd never thought of Pa in those exact terms before, but after Widow Jensen mentioned it I could see that it was probably true. I was sure that a better man than Pa had never walked the earth. I started remembering all the times he had gone out of his way for Ma and me, and many others. The list seemed endless as I thought on it.

Pa insisted that everyone try on the shoes before we left. I was amazed when they all fit and I wondered how he had known what sizes to get. Then I guessed that if he was on an errand for the Lord that the Lord would make sure he got the right sizes.

Tears were running down Widow Jensen's face again when we stood up to leave. Pa took each of the kids in his big arms and gave them a hug. They clung to him and didn't want us to go. I could see that they missed their Pa, and I was glad that I still had mine.

At the door Pa turned to Widow Jensen and said, "The Mrs. wanted me to invite you and the children over for Christmas dinner tomorrow. The turkey will be more than the three of us can eat, and a man can get cantankerous if he has to eat turkey for too many meals. We'll be by to get you about eleven. It'll be nice to have some little ones around again. Matt, here, hasn't been little for quite a spell." I was the youngest. My two brothers and two sisters had all married and had moved away. Widow Jensen nodded and said, "Thank you, Brother Miles. I don't have to say, 'May the Lord bless you,' I know for certain that He will."

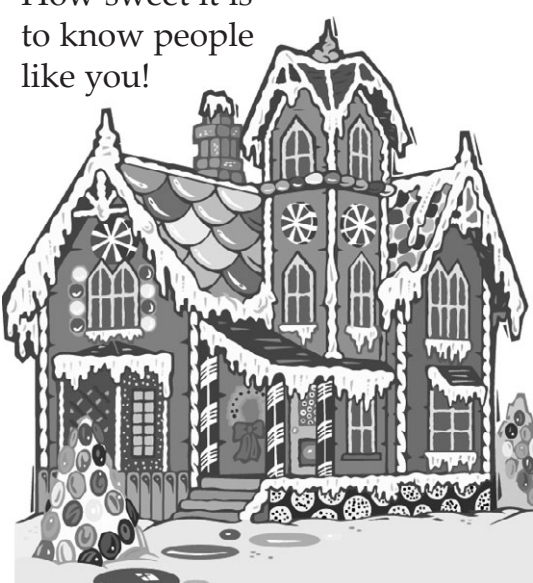
Out on the sled I felt a warmth that came from deep within and I didn't even notice the cold. When we had gone a ways, Pa turned to me and said, "Matt, I want you to know something. Your ma and me have been tucking a little money away here and there all year so we could buy that rifle for you, but we didn't have quite enough."

Then yesterday a man who owed me a little money from years back came by to make things square. Your ma and me were real excited, thinking that now we could get you that rifle, and I started into town this morning to do just that. But on the way I saw little Jakey out scratching in the woodpile with his feet wrapped in those gunny sacks and I knew what I had to do. Son, I spent the money for shoes and a little candy for those children. I hope you understand."

I understood, and my eyes became wet with tears again. I understood very well, and I was so glad Pa had done it. Now the rifle seemed very low on my list of priorities. Pa had given me a lot more. He had given me the look on Widow Jensen's face and the radiant smiles of her three children.


For the rest of my life, Whenever I saw any of the Jensens, or split a block of wood, I remembered, and remembering brought back that same joy I felt riding home beside Pa that night. Pa had given me much more than a rifle that night, he had given me the best Christmas of my life.

How sweet it is to know people like you!



serving you has been a real treat for us.
Merry Christmas!

State Farm Insurance
Mitch Wilson, Agent



A Wish For You at the Holidays

May your heart be filled with contentment, and your home with joy throughout the holiday season and beyond.

GERALD MELTON
Public Defender for the 16th Judicial District
Cannon and Rutherford Counties



Back row, Helon Bush, Eddie Sykes, Sandra Walker. Front row, left to right, Virginia Campbell, Becky Harris, Cheryl Johnson, Wanda Gunter, Marlene Bogle, Charlene Bogle.

Thank You for Visiting Us!

With our sincere gratitude for your loyal patronage at this special time of year. We enjoyed every minute of serving you and look forward to your continued support.




It definitely is the most wonderful time of the year so don't make a tragic mistake and mix alcohol or drugs with driving.

Have a designated driver and help save a life.

Cannon County Sheriff's Department
Darrell Young, Sheriff

I Corinthians 13, Christmas Version

Author Unknown

If I decorate my house perfectly with plaid bows, strands of twinkling lights and shiny balls, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another decorator.

If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of Christmas cookies, preparing gourmet meals and arranging a beautifully adorned table at mealtime, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another cook.

If I work at the soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home and give all that I have to charity, but do not show love to my family, it profits me nothing.

If I trim the spruce with shimmering angels and crocheted snowflakes, attend myriad holiday parties and sing in the choir's cantata but do not focus on Christ, I have missed the point.

Love stops the cooking to hug the child.

Love sets aside the decorating to kiss the husband.

Love is kind, though harried and tired.

Love doesn't envy another's home that has coordinated Christmas china and table linens.

Love doesn't yell at the kids to get out of the way, but is thankful they are there to be in the way.

Love doesn't give only to those who are able to give in return but rejoices in giving to those who can't.

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails.

Video games will break, pearl necklaces will be lost, golf clubs will rust.

But giving the gift of love will endure.

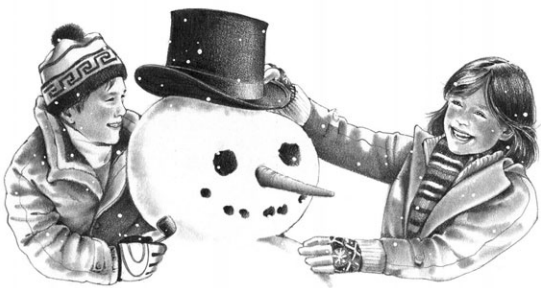


you sleep kid... I'll watch for Santa.

Photo Provided

You don't have to be human to believe in Santa Claus.

Merry Christmas



Glowing with Thanks

We're so very grateful to have such great customers like you. May your lives be packed with loads of unexpected joy this season.

MELTON LAW OFFICE

SUSAN MELTON
On the Square in Woodbury



HOPE. DREAM. LAUGH. REJOICE.

In this season of possibilities, we hope your every wish comes true. Merry Christmas and many thanks for your goodwill and support all year long.



FirstBank

Mindy - Joan - Hollie - Diane - Ingrid

Corner of Main and McCrary Street - Woodbury - 563-2226



Joy to the world

--And many thanks to all of you this holiday season. It's been a privilege and a joy serving you.

Smithson Construction

563-5748 Cell 904-4894



Happy Holidays

From Our House To Yours!

With glad tidings to our customers, neighbors and friends this holiday season. For your continued support we will forever be grateful.

We will forward to serving you again in 2013.

Preston Brothers Construction Co.

830 McMinnville Hwy.
Woodbury, TN

Terry, Charles and David Preston

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Author Unknown

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Preston Brothers Construction Co.

830 McMinnville Hwy.
Woodbury, TN

Terry, Charles and David Preston

Crock Pot Fudge

It is so good, and sets up really good. The flavors blend together very well.

- 1 jar (16oz) dry roasted unsalted peanuts
- 1 jar (16oz) dry roasted salted peanuts
- 1 pkg. (12 oz.) semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 1 bar (4 oz.) German Chocolate-broken into pieces
- 3 #s or 2 planks White Bark-broken into pieces

Put ingredients into a 4 or 5 quart crock pot in the order listed. Cover and cook for 3 hours on low.
DO NOT REMOVE LID DURING THIS TIME

Turn of and cool slightly (I don't stir immediately) Then stir to mix thoroughly and drop by teaspoonfuls on waxed paper. Let cool thoroughly. Approximately 170 pieces.

Guests Will Gobble Up Apple Infused Turkey

Home cook Sherry Monfils adds a double hit of apple to accent her showstopping bird, with delightful results. Apple juice concentrate glazes the turkey while apples inside steam the bird from the inside out, keeping it juicy. Careful - you may not have leftovers with this tasty turkey!

Easy Turkey w/ Apples & Glaze

What You Need

- 1 12 lb turkey, giblets removed
- 3 apples, cored and quartered
- 1 12 oz container apple juice concentrate, thawed
- 1 3/4 c chicken broth
- 1 1/2 tsp dried sage

Directions

- Preheat oven to 325 degrees F. Line a large roasting pan with foil.
- Place turkey in pan. Rub inside and outside of turkey with salt & pepper.
- Stuff apples inside turkey.
- Pour apple juice over turkey.
- Pour broth into bottom of pan. Sprinkle turkey with sage. Loosely cover turkey with foil.

- Roast 3 hours. Remove foil and roast another 30-60 min, brushing with liquid until bird is no longer pink inside.

Mississippi Mud Ice Cream Pie

- 1 (15 oz) package of Oreos
- 1/2 cup margarine (or butter), melted
- 1 (12 oz) container fudge ice cream topping (I used hot fudge)
- 1/2 gallon vanilla ice cream
- 2 cups nuts, chopped (optional)
- Whipped topping
- Crushed Oreos to sprinkle on top

Crush the package of Oreo's and mix with melted margarine. Press into 9x13" cake pan or 2 pie pans. Soften ice cream at room temperature for about 30-35 minutes. Spread onto the Oreo crust. Freeze for 2 hours. Pour warm fudge topping over ice cream. Freeze until well chilled (I usually freeze it for about 6-8 hours to make sure that it is set up). Cut into serving-size pieces. Top individual pieces with whipped topping, nuts, drizzled hot fudge, and crushed oreos.

Fluffy Blueberry Cheesecake

- 1 (8 oz) package cream cheese, softened
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 1 (8 oz) container Cool Whip, thawed
- 1 prepared graham cracker crust
- 1 can blueberry pie filling (cherry works great too!)

Beat cream cheese and sugar in a large bowl on medium speed until smooth and the sugar is dissolved. Gently stir in whipped topping. Spoon into pie crust and spread to the edge of crust. Refrigerate for at least 1 hour. Top with pie filling just before serving.

Easy No Bake Cookies (aka Gorilla Poops)

- Mix and bring to a boil:
- 2 Cups sugar
- 2 T butter or shortening
- 2 T cocoa

- 1/2 cup milk

Take off burner and add:

- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp vanilla
- 3/4 cup peanut butter (crunchy or creamy)
- Mix well until peanut butter is dissolved.
- Quickly add 2 cups of quick uncooked oatmeal and mix.
- Drop from spoon onto wax or foil paper. Let cool before eating.

Strawberry Icebox Cake

- 2 pounds fresh strawberries, washed
- 3 1/2 cups whipping cream, divided
- 1/3 cup confectioners sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/2 teaspoon almond extract (optional)
- 4 sleeves (about 19 ounces, or 24 to 28 whole crackers) graham crackers
- 4 ounces dark chocolate, finely chopped

Take out a few of the best-looking strawberries and set them aside for the garnish. Hull the remainder of the strawberries and slice each berry into thin slices.

With a hand mixer or in the bowl of a stand mixer, whip 3 cups of cream until it just holds stiff peaks.

Add the confectioners sugar, vanilla, and almond extract (if using) and whip to combine.

Spread a small spoonful of whipped cream on the bottom of a 9x13 inch baking pan, or a similarly-sized platter. Lay down six graham crackers. Lightly cover the top of the graham crackers with a thin layer of whipped cream, and then a single layer of strawberries. Repeat three more times, until you have four layers of graham crackers. Spread the last of the whipped cream over the top and swirl it lightly with a spoon. Add a few more strawberries.

To make the ganache, heat the remaining cream until bubbles form around the edges, then pour over the chopped chocolate. Let it stand for a few minutes, then whisk until the mixture is thick and glossy.

Drizzle this over the layered dessert with a spoon, or transfer to a squeeze bottle and use that to drizzle.

Refrigerate for at least four hours, or until the crackers have softened completely. Garnish with additional berries.

At The Birth Of Our Savior

At this special time of year, we give thanks for the many blessings we share, including the privilege of serving good people like you.

With best wishes for a joyous Christmas from all of us.

Woodson's Pharmacy

Tommy and Diana



JOY
LOVE
PEACE
HARMONY
HEALTH
HAPPINESS
& GOOD
FORTUNE

Who says you can't have it all?

Wishing you and your family every happiness this holiday season.

We really appreciate your business and support!

Martina's Emporium

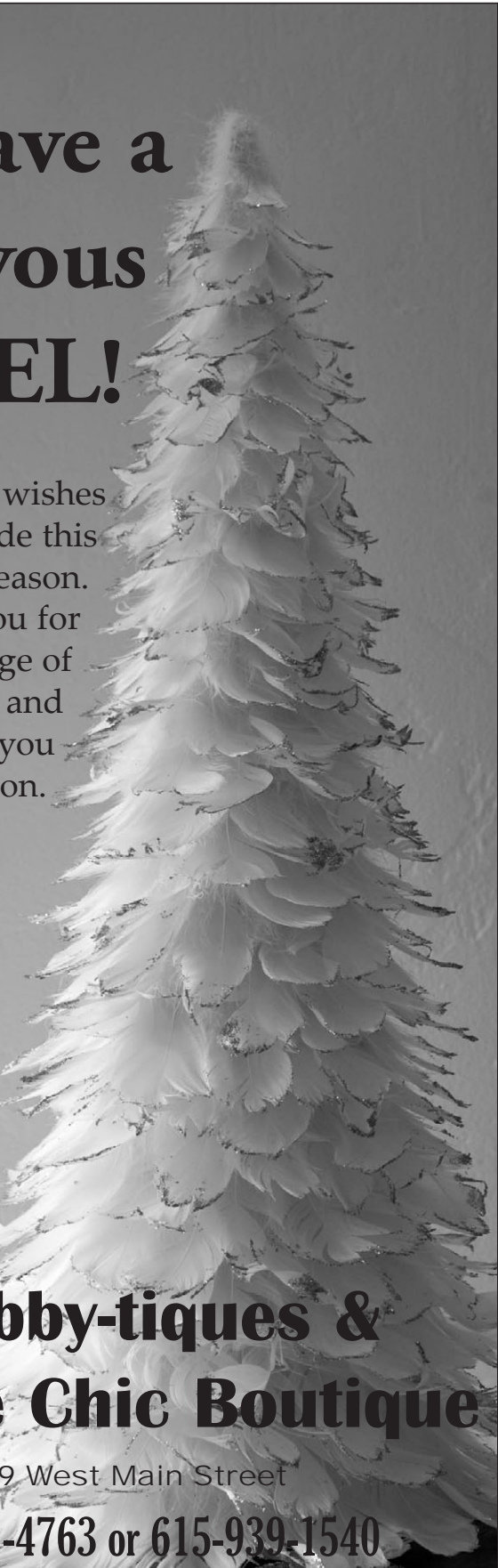
111 West Main Street
615-556-0954

Have a Joyous NOEL!

With warm wishes and gratitude this holiday season. We thank you for the privilege of serving you and hope to see you again soon.

Shabby-tiques & Vintage Chic Boutique

109 West Main Street
931-881-4763 or 615-939-1540



Letters to Santa
Dear Santa,
I have all I need and most of what I want. Happiness, health and financial security tops my wish list.
Your spirit brings joy to so many. Keep up the good work.

Lisa

Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl part of the time. I may be 48 years old, but sometimes, I still say and do things that I shouldn't.

Santa, please bring extra special gifts to the sick children in hospitals. Santa, please bring the parents something nice also. If nothing else, Santa, please give them a comforting hug.

Santa, please make a visit to all of the servicemen and women in foreign lands. Please deliver peace and love and comfort to them. Santa, please stop by and visit all of the families of the soldiers.

Santa, I don't want or need anything, but if you want to leave me a certificate for free weight loss surgery, that would be great! Santa, my daughter makes really bad choices. If you could, would you please deliver some sense to her. Please also, would you bring a guy to her that would be good to her and good for her?

Santa, I believe in your love and your magic. I believe that Christmas is a magical time of hear.

Hug Mrs. Claus for me!

Love, Pam

P.S. Please bring a special gift to Ms. Chianne Pre-K class!

1 c. cranberry juice
1 c. pineapple juice
Carbonated water or ginger ale

Heat tea and sugar until sugar is dissolved. Add rest of ingredients. Cool. Add carbonated water or ginger ale to taste. Pour into punch bowl, adding a round of ice made by putting water into a mold and scattering cherries, mint or other green leaves in it before freezing. Color the ice red or green by pouring food coloring in before freezing.

Granola Crunch Recipe

1/2 cup butter or margarine
3/4 cup packed brown sugar
1/4 cup honey
1/4 cup water
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
3 cups old-fashioned oats
1 cup sunflower seed or almond slices
1 cup wheat germ
1 cup flaked coconut, optional

Directions

In 2 1/2- or 3-qt casserole, combine butter, sugar, honey, water, salt and cinnamon.
Microwave at High 5 to 8 minutes, or until slightly thickened, stirring after 4 to 6 minutes.
Stir in remaining ingredients.
Reduce power to 50% (Medium).
Microwave 8 to 12 minutes, or until rich golden brown, stirring after 3 to 6 minutes, then every 2 minutes.
Spread on buttered cookie sheet, pressing down lightly with pancake turner.
Let stand until firm. Break into small pieces and store in airtight container.

Cinnamon Cider

Ingredients
48 oz. apple cider
2/3 cup water
1/3 cup granulated sugar
2 Tbs. firmly packed brown sugar
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/4 tsp. ground nutmeg
2 Tbs. freshly squeezed lemon juice

Combine cider, water, sugars, cinnamon, and nutmeg. Over medium heat, stir until sugar dissolves, then bring to a boil, reduce to low, add lemon juice, and heat thoroughly. Serve with a lemon slice.

Apple Dapple Cake

Ingredients:
2 cups sugar
1 1/4 cups margarine
4 eggs
3 cups self-rising flour
1 tsp. vanilla
3 cups raw apples, chopped
1 tsp. cinnamon
1 cup chopped pecans (optional)

Directions:

Beat sugar, margarine, and eggs well. Add flour gradually, beating well. Add vanilla, apples, cinnamon, and nuts (if using). Mix ingredients well. Pour into a greased and floured bundt pan, or any tube pan. Bake one hour, 10 minutes at 325 degrees. Let cool about 30 minutes, then turn onto cake plate.
Drizzle: 1 cup powdered sugar, dash cinnamon, 1 Tbs. melted butter, one Tbs. milk. Mix all together until smooth and drizzle over warm cake.

Good Morning Coffee Cake

Ingredients:
1 box blueberry muffin mix

1 can (11 oz.) mandarin oranges

Directions:

Streusel: Mix 1/4 c. brown sugar, 3 Tbs. flour, 1/4 tsp. cinnamon, and 2 Tbs. firm butter until crumbly.
Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Grease 8x8x2 square pan. Prepare muffin batter as directed on package, except pour into prepared pan. Drain oranges and arrange orange segments on top of batter. Sprinkle with streusel mixture. Bake 25-30 minutes.

Peppermint Chocolate Sticks


Ingredients:
1 bag large pretzel sticks
2 pkgs. semi-sweet chocolate chips
1 pkg. white chocolate chips
6 Tbsp. vegetable shortening
1 small pkg. King Leo Peppermint Stick Candy or other hard peppermint candy

Directions:


1. Melt semi-sweet chocolate chips on low heat in a saucepan, preferably a tall, narrow one (so it's easy to dip the sticks).
2. Slowly melt vegetable shortening and add 4 Tbsp. of it to the chocolate. Stir frequently.
3. Do the same with the white chocolate chips, adding the remaining 2 Tbsp. melted shortening. This can also be done using a double boiler.
4. In a Ziploc bag, crush the peppermint candies.
5. Dip the pretzels into the semi-sweet chocolate, tilting the pan to the side so the pretzel is mostly coated. Let the excess drip off.
6. Lay pretzels on waxed paper and drizzle with white chocolate. Immediately sprinkle with crushed peppermint.
Serving size varies based on the number of pretzels in the bag.

North Pole Punch


2 c. strong tea
1 c. sugar
1 c. orange juice
1/2 c. lemon juice



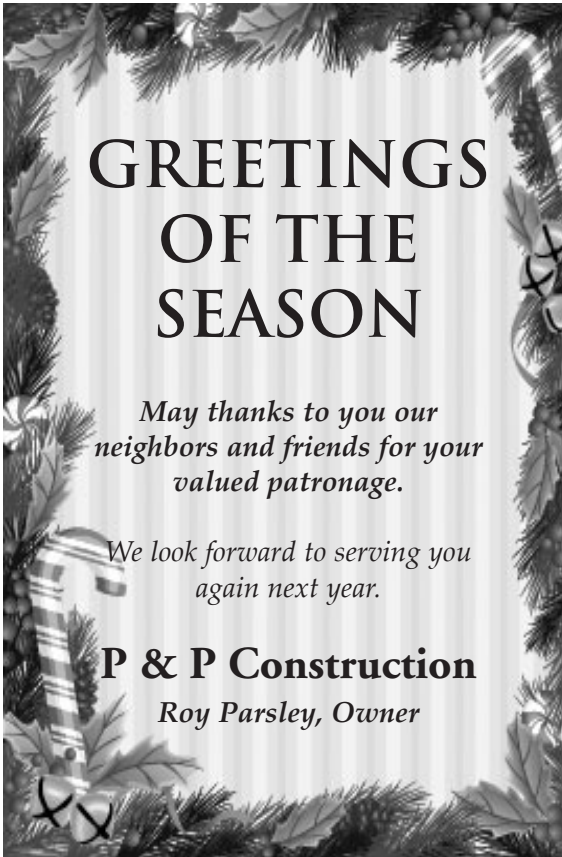
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