

Rezoning from A1

and national agencies based on emergencies and their needs.

Sales tax figures presented

Assistant Finance Director Neal Appelbaum distributed information to the Board in regard to sales tax figures. Woodbury and Cannon County voters will vote in March on a referendum asking whether or not voters want to increase the sales tax by what is considered a penny. The sales tax currently is at 8.75%. If the citizenry votes to increase it the sales tax will go up to 9.75% which is the sales tax figure of all surrounding counties. The revenue brought in by sales tax goes to help fund county schools and roads. Early voting begins towards the end of February.

Safety grant application approved

The Board gave the green light for Police Chief Lowell Womack to apply for a safety partner's matching grant of \$585. The grant will be used to fund needed equipment.

LED light proposal presented

Scott Stephens with Path Company out of Mississippi presented information about his company's services. The Path Company handles infrastructure and wants to help the Town of Woodbury convert to LED lights, especially downtown, as well as other areas of the town.

According to an analysis, the Town of Woodbury paid \$26,000 in fiscal year 2022-23 for servicing the downtown streetlights. Stephens estimates changing the lights over to LED will save substantial money (roughly \$122,000) over a 20-year period.

The aldermen will take the information home to study and possibly discuss it at the March meeting.

Early voting set to begin

Early voting at the Election Office, 120 South Tatum Street, starts Wednesday, February 14th and runs through Tuesday, February 27th. Election hours are Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Tuesday & Thursday 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Rock City Seasons take center stage



Ibsen the troll guards the Hall of the Mountain King entrance. (Joe Howell photo)

Rock City is excited to announce a new lineup for 2024. Introducing Rock City Seasons, four distinct themed seasons each featuring special celebrations, performances, activities, photo opportunities and more: Spring Blooms, Mountaintop Summers, Fall Colors and HoliDAYS.

Rock City Seasons replaces the events Shamrock City, EarthDayz, Southern Blooms Festival, Summer Music Weekends and Rocktoberfest, however, the Enchanted Garden of Lights remains. "Our hope with highlighting the seasons versus special events is not at all to diminish the kind of enhancements

we have offered during our previous weekend-only events, but instead offer the enhancements folks love every day of the season," said See Rock City Inc. President & CEO, Doug Chapin.

"This programming change gives us the opportunity to showcase Rock City during the day in a new way that celebrates the seasons and all the uniqueness and ever-changing qualities of the gardens in winter, spring, summer and fall," said Will Jackson, Rock City's senior manager of innovation.

The seasonal lineup begins with Spring Blooms, where guests can soak in the sunshine and colorful array of spring décor and the garden's fabulous art installations from March 4 to May 12.

Rock City is also excited to host a first-of-its-kind nighttime soirée, Rock City Nights: Flora Luna. With culinary, gardens and art intertwined, the attraction's first food & drink event offers a unique dining experience in a low light garden environment. From April 5 to May 12, wine and dine in the gardens at twilight and be one of the first to cross the Swing-A-Long Bridge at night.

Tickets go live on March 1. For updates go to www.seerockcity.com/ seasons.

Looking for the perfect summer adventure? Rock City's Mountaintop Summers is just the place to be. From May 24 to September 2, wind through

cool corridors of stone and beat the heat with a refreshing beverage while taking in a seven-state view. As always, the Rock City Raptors birds of prey shows are a sight to see, as some of nature's most incredible birds soar overhead in this immersive educational program.

See the gardens and the Chattanooga Valley in full autumn splendor during Rock City's Fall Colors, from September 14 to November 8. Pumpkins, haybale vignettes and other seasonal decorations throughout the trail provide a picture-perfect backdrop for fall family photos. Guest-favorite banjo player Matt Downer is sure to amaze guests of all ages during one of Rock City's most popular seasons.

Rock City's HoliDAYS is the daytime complement to the nightly Enchanted Garden of Lights. Featuring festive natural decorations, HoliDAYS provides a unique Christmas experience for daytime guests, from November 22 to January 4.

Rock City is one of the South's most popular natural attractions. Known for its unique geological and botanical wonders, the enchanted 4,100-foot walking trail is a true marvel of nature featuring massive ancient rock formations, a large waterfall that cascades down Lookout Mountain and the Swing-A-Long Bridge that spans nearly 200 feet. Visit www.seerockcity.com for more.

Keeping older drivers safe on the road



Jim Miller

Dear Savvy Senior,
What safety tips can you recommend for older drivers? My 86-year-old mother, who still drives herself, had a fender bender last month and I worry about her safety.

Back Seat Daughter

Dear Back Seat,
With more and more older Americans driving well into their 70s, 80s and beyond,

there are a variety of things your mom can do to help maintain and even improve her driving skills. Here are some recommendations by driving rehabilitation specialists who work with older drivers.

Get an eye exam: Because about 90 percent of the information necessary to drive is received through our eyes, this is a good first step in ensuring your mom's driving safety. So, get your mom's eyes checked every year to be sure her vision and eyewear is up to par.

Get a physical or wellness exam: As people age, it's also very important to monitor changes in overall health as it relates to driving. Medical conditions like arthritis, dementia, diabetes, Parkinson's disease, sleep apnea and stroke can all affect driving.

In addition, many seniors also take multiple medications or combinations of medications that can make them drowsy or lightheaded, which can impair judgment or affect reflexes or alertness necessary

for safe driving. So, an annual physical or wellness examination and medication review is also a smart way to verify your mom's driving safety.

Take a refresher course: AARP and the American Automobile Association (AAA) both have older driver improvement courses that can help your mom brush up her driving skills and understand how to adjust for slower reflexes, weaker vision and other age-related physical changes that can affect driving. Taking a class may also earn her a discount on her auto insurance. To locate a class, contact your local AAA (AAA.com) or AARP (AARPsdriversafety.org, 888-227-7669). Most courses cost around \$20 to \$30 and can be taken online.



Make some adjustments: Adjusting when and where your mom drives are another way to help keep her safe and behind the wheel longer. Some simple adjustments include not driving after dark or during rush hour traffic, avoiding major highways or other busy roads, and not driving in poor weather conditions.

Evaluate her driving: To stay on top of your mom's driving abilities you should take a ride with her from

time-to-time watching for problem areas. For example: Does she drive at inappropriate speeds, tailgate or drift between lanes? Does she have difficulty seeing, backing up or changing lanes? Does she react slowly, get confused easily or make poor driving decisions?

For more evaluation tips, AAA offers a senior driver self-rating assessment exercise (Drivers 65 Plus) you or she can access at Exchange.AAA.com/safety/senior-driver-safety-mobility.

If your mom needs a more thorough evaluation, you can turn to a driver rehabilitation specialist who's trained to evaluate older drivers and offer suggestions and adaptations to help keep her safe. But be aware that this type of assessment can run anywhere between \$100 and \$500 or more. To locate a professional in your area, visit ADED.net or AOTA.org – search "driving practitioner directory."

When it gets to the point your mom's driving isn't safe anymore and she needs to quit, you may need to help her create a list of names and phone numbers of family, friends and local transportation services she can call on for a ride.

To find out what transportation services are available in your mom's area contact the Eldercare Locator (800-677-1116), which will direct you to her area agency on aging for assistance.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.

LEGALS & PUBLIC NOTICES

The Cannon County Board of Zoning Appeals will have a public hearing on Tuesday, 2/27/2024 in the 2nd floor Court Room of the County Courthouse, 200 W. Main Street, Woodbury TN for the purpose of reviewing the following item:

Application for a Special Exception to: place a modular home in an A-1 Agricultural Zone at 2400 Bertha Owen Road, Morrison, TN 37357.

The proposed item can be reviewed at the office of the Cannon County Planning Department, 200 W Main Street, Woodbury TN, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.

The public hearing will begin at 5:30 P. M. All citizens are invited to attend; in addition to the above public hearing, a period for public comment on matters germane to other items on the agenda shall be provided. Any questions or comments can be addressed to the Cannon County Land Use Administrator by phone: 615-563-5263 or by email: David.Robinson@CannonCountyTN.gov

The Cannon County Board of Zoning Appeals will have a public hearing on Tuesday, 2/27/2024 in the 2nd floor Court Room of the County Courthouse, 200 W. Main Street, Woodbury TN for the purpose of reviewing the following item:

Application for a Variance of: 1.19 acres for water supply from a well: to accommodate subdivision of a 0.81 acre parcel of land at 780 H Parker Road, Bradyville, TN 37026.

The proposed item can be reviewed at the office of the Cannon County Planning Department, 200 W Main Street, Woodbury TN, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.

The public hearing will begin at 5:30 P. M. All citizens are invited to attend; in addition to the above public hearing, a period for public comment on matters germane to other items on the agenda shall be provided. Any questions or comments can be addressed to the Cannon County Land Use Administrator by phone: 615-563-5263 or by email: David.Robinson@CannonCountyTN.gov

The Cannon County Board of Zoning Appeals will have a public hearing on Tuesday, 2/27/2024 in the 2nd floor Court Room of the County Courthouse, 200 W. Main Street, Woodbury TN for the purpose of reviewing the following item:

Application for a Special Exception to: operate a farm/logging equipment mechanic shop (C-1 Commercial) in an A-1 Agricultural Zone at 775 Osment Road, McMinnville, TN 37110.

The proposed item can be reviewed at the office of the Cannon County Planning Department, 200 W Main Street, Woodbury TN, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.

The public hearing will begin at 5:30 P. M. All citizens are invited to attend; in addition to the above public hearing, a period for public comment on matters germane to other items on the agenda shall be provided. Any questions or comments can be addressed to the Cannon County Land Use Administrator by phone: 615-563-5263 or by email: David.Robinson@CannonCountyTN.gov

The Woodbury Planning Commission will meet in regular session Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 6:00 PM at Woodbury City Hall. The meeting is open to the public.

Bill Jennings, Chairman

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