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GN
SHELBYVILLE

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OCTOBER 2021

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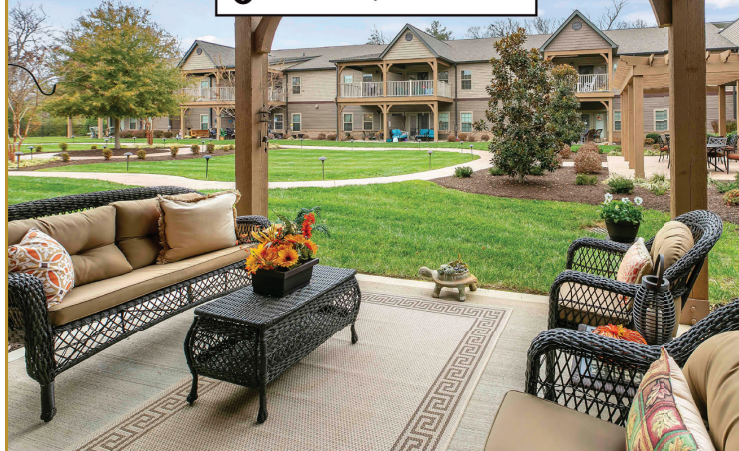


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Good News SHELBYVILLE

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

The Greatest Commandment

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

OUR WORLD, our country, our state, and our county is a better place when we love our neighbor. There is plenty of disagreement, arguments, and hateful words to go around the world two times over. A thousand years ago, people were dealing with hate. How people treat each other a thousand years from now, though, could be on us?

I believe that our future can change based on how we love each other. Love was the greatest commandment for a reason. Even if it doesn't make sense to us today or tomorrow, it's still worth treating other people the way we'd like to be treated.

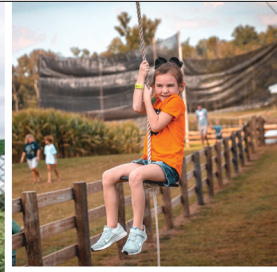
I think if I learn to love a little harder and smile a little brighter, the people on this earth a thousand years from now might deal with a happier and healthier world. We all have love in us. Why not share it with our neighbors?



Wesley Bryant

Wesley Bryant,
MANAGING EDITOR

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GOOD NEWS

There is enough bad news out there. Good News is hearing about your neighbor's successes. It's listening to your five-year-old niece tell a story that seems to go on forever; she stumbles over her words, but it's worth listening to. Good News is everywhere. It's in the way we love our neighbor. It's as exciting as a new student at school, yet as nervous as moving to a new town.

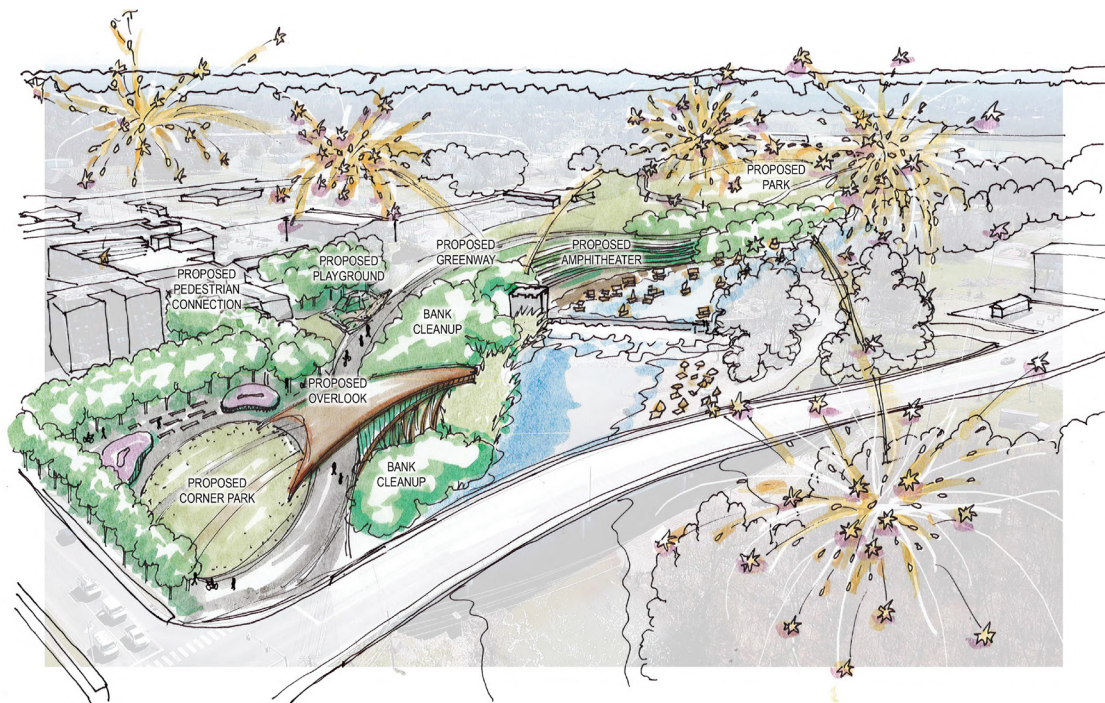
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CITY NEWS

Building Up Our Neighbors and Neighborhoods

HOW THE CITY OF SHELBYVILLE IS BRINGING NEW HOPE

By Donna Copeland // Drawings by ASA Engineering, Inc.

NEW NEIGHBORS

Who are your neighbors? How broadly does your definition of “neighbor” go? Canada is a neighbor of the United States. Rutherford County is a neighbor of Bedford County. Are new residents of Bedford County all your neighbors? Southern hospitality typically extends friendliness and a welcoming attitude to visitors and new neighbors alike. One of the things that attracted Shelbyville’s new Planning and Community Development Director, Waleed Albakry, to Bedford County is that famous southern hospitality. After living in Canada since 2004, the Egyptian-born Waleed is excited to be part of the visionary growth that is happening in Shelbyville.

Keeping the flavor and personality of Shelbyville is top on his list of priorities while making sure that all residents, long-term and new, have input into Shelbyville’s future. He is looking forward to meeting as many Shelbyville residents as he can so he can better understand what you love about this region and what you feel would make it even better. Join him on October 22 from 11-12 at Coffee Break (121 Public Square S) to share your thoughts.

There is no doubt that Shelbyville is growing. How growth, projects, and initiatives are handled will have a huge impact on generations to come. With a Master of City Planning from the University of Manitoba, Waleed is aware of the importance of community



Above: Shelbyville's new Planning and Community Development Director, Waleed Albakry

engagement to help determine a vision for the future that is as unique as Shelbyville is. There is a need for standards for expansion and development to determine what is desirable.

There are opportunities for smart growth by approaching development in a way that encourages a mix of building types and uses, creating diverse housing, preserving open spaces, farmland, and historic buildings, and fostering diversity and community engagement.

Prior to interviewing for the position of Planning Director, Waleed had driven through Shelbyville several times with his brother and family who live in Rutherford County. His trained eye could see the rough-cut gems of Shelbyville need a little polish to shine like the hearts of the citizens here.

Part of planning is being a good steward of resources and supporting the many departments and people who touch the planning process. Waleed is excited to bring digital planning to the community, reducing a huge amount of paper and delays. Initially, he will implement digital planning for subdivisions where there are numerous phases and levels of planning to coordinate. Imagine a sheet of paper,

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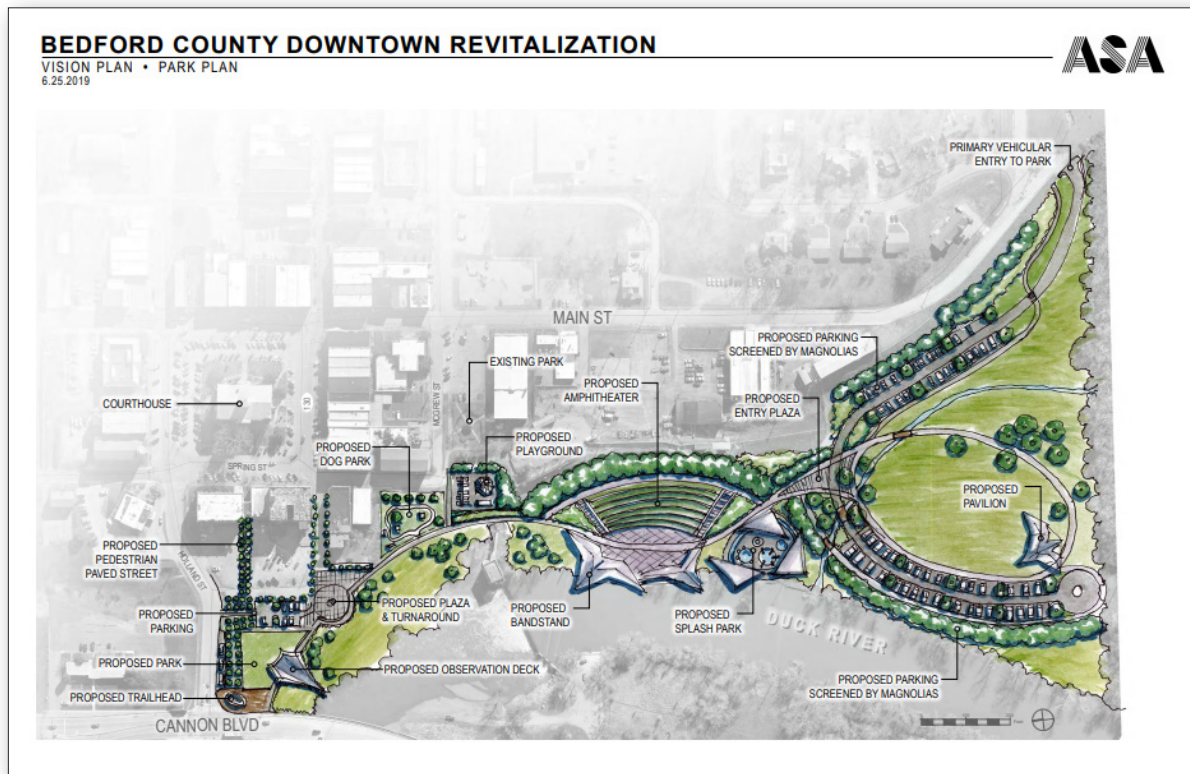
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Above: Artist's rendering of the bird's eye view of a new recently funded Duck River Overlook and a new proposed riverfront park.

approximately 24" x 36", about the size of a café table, which is the size of a blueprint. Currently, when a subdivision is being planned and developed, the end result of all of the details, changes, and planning required, results in a stack of those pages being approximately five feet tall! Not only will digital planning reduce paper, it will also enable multiple departments to review plans and comment on them simultaneously. This reduces unnecessary delays and helps all of the affected departments run more efficiently.

In addition to overseeing the planning process, Waleed will also support community development projects. One example is the recently funded Duck River Overlook, an observation deck that will provide an opportunity to view the river and its wildlife in downtown Shelbyville. The project is expected to take up to two years to complete.

CREATING HOPE FOR NEIGHBORS

Within communities are the "hidden neighbors," people who are struggling financially and are in the community but do not have permanent housing. City Manager, Josh Ray, is enthusiastic about the City Commission's decision to better understand the issue of homelessness in Shelbyville by voting to form a HOPE (Help Our People Engage) Committee at the September meeting. The

committee will be tasked with researching the many factors impacting the issue of being homeless and how the city might be able to better address those issues. As the cost of housing increases and Covid-eviction protections are reducing, it is imperative that this vulnerable population's needs be addressed in a proactive manner.

Homelessness isn't just about housing. It is about creating stability for an entire family through educational opportunities for children and adults, job training, mental health support, safety, technology, and nutrition. What is needed is to understand the many complexities and then address them with a comprehensive plan.

ONGOING NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENTS

The Blue Cross Blue Shield grant-funded playground construction has begun at HV Griffin Park. In addition, planning for improved signage for Shelbyville at the entrances for the community as well as banners announcing current events or historical recognition is in the works.

This is a time of hope in Shelbyville, a time of reflecting, planning, and contributing to creating a brighter future for all of our neighbors. -GN

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COUNTY NEWS

Being Good Neighbors

*HOW CARING FOR THE COMMON GOOD
MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF ALL*

By Donna Copeland // Photos contributed by the County

STATE OF THE COUNTY

The good neighbor cooperative atmosphere between the City of Shelbyville and Bedford County was highlighted at a recent Shelbyville-Bedford County Chamber of Commerce “State of the County” event. According to Bedford County Mayor Chad Graham, the city/county partnership is the “secret sauce” of the improvements coming to the region. Working together benefits the entire community as is evidenced by the joint effort to expand TCAT-Shelbyville as well as combined efforts for tourism and economic development.

An area is only as strong as the people who live there. Making sure that Shelbyville and Bedford County have the “quality of place,” as Mayor Graham calls it, ensures that people can have a great life close to home. This includes educational opportunities for themselves and their children, diverse career options, recreational events, and a community to take pride in. Public schools, downtown revitalization, and public safety are key areas where the city and county recognize the importance of a shared vision for the future.

Looking out for each other through community engagement and public safety initiatives are foundational to being good neighbors. As more technology and remote work are available, access to high-speed internet becomes critical for rural communities to attract investment. Consider the desire of many senior citizens to “age in place.” There are new technologies that enable people to live more independently in their own homes with the support of a variety of internet-based devices. Mayor Graham has compared high-speed internet to the necessity of water; it is that important to the health and safety of an area and can no longer be considered a luxury.

Individuals who live and shop in Bedford County are encouraged to leave positive social media reviews for those businesses they support and frequent. If you have disappointing service at a location you are encouraged to reach out individually to the owner or manager to try to resolve your issue prior to leaving a negative review on social media. Reviews are relied on by many to decide where to shop or eat and they can make a huge difference on a small business’s bottom line.



SHELBYVILLE-BEDFORD PARTNERSHIP

Groundbreaking for the new TCAT-S campus should happen in spring 2022, according to TCAT-S president Dr. Laura Monks at the recent Tea and Tenders event. The purpose of the event was to highlight the relationship between educational institutions and economic development.

The speed of technology changes combined with the number of careers an adult might experience over the course of their lifetime makes a facility like TCAT an asset to the area. As employers needs change, curriculum can be developed to respond to fill gaps in the workforce. The convenience of having a facility in Bedford County gives more opportunities to all who live in the area.

Potential employers see the joint efforts happening in Shelbyville and Bedford County and it encourages them to locate their facilities here. Experiencing the warmth, community, education, and diversity of Bedford County is a winning combination.

Dual enrollment programs enable high school students to get certifications and college credits while they are completing their high school diplomas. This provides financial savings for advanced education and assists them in entering the workplace quickly. Helping to keep those young people in the same community they came from supports the tax base and services available to the entire community. When young people feel compelled to move away to create success in their careers, it is called "brain drain." Having a diverse population in Bedford County benefits everyone and keeps the community feeling vital and alive.

RECOGNIZING NEIGHBORS

Connie Cook, the Geographic Information System Manager in the Assessor of Property Office, was recently honored for her service as she retires. She is wished a wonderful retirement and her years of service are greatly appreciated.

Two new veteran pavers were placed by Mike Ruess, the Bedford County Veteran Service Officer. The Veteran's Plaza is located on the south side of the courthouse and is centered around a statue created by Bell Buckle artist, Russell Faxon. If you wish to honor a veteran, please contact the Veterans Service Office at (931) 685-4838 for more information.

Adam Thomas was sworn in as a new County Commissioner for District 6. He was appointed to fill the vacancy left by Chasity Gunn who resigned due to moving out of the district. He works in the custom home business, is married with four children and he has lived in Bedford County for over six years.

The State of Tennessee Driver's License Testing Center has reopened in a new location at the Bedford County Business Complex at 200 Dover Street.

The "State of Bedford County" continues to strengthen as the shared vision is developed and comes to fruition. -GN

Stay in touch with upcoming county meetings and how to contact county departments at bedfordcountyttn.gov



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SHELBYVILLE-BEDFORD PARTNERSHIP

Employment Opportunities in Bedford County

*THE SHELBYVILLE-BEDFORD PARTNERSHIP
PLAYS A ROLE IN SUPPORTING LOCAL INDUSTRIES*

By Shane Hooper // Photography by James Jordan

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT opportunities arise from mutually beneficial relationships between developers, manufacturers, elected officials, partners, and stakeholders. Manufacturers already located in Shelbyville and Bedford expand and create more local jobs when supported and profitable. The Shelbyville-Bedford Partnership plays a vital role in supporting local industries through workforce development and relationship-building opportunities.

Support for our existing manufacturers means making sure companies have the trained workforce they need. Bedford and the surrounding area have a variety of employment sectors. This employment variety generates the need for a diversity of skill sets for schools to teach.

Manufacturing represents the largest employment sector in Bedford County, but there are many more. Other significant sectors include retail trade, transportation and warehousing, construction, accommodation, and food services. Expanding the observation area to a 45-minute drive from Bedford by county yields manufacturing still as the number one sector

followed by retail trade, healthcare and social assistance, accommodation, food services, administrative and support services, waste management, remediation services, and transportation and warehousing. In the economic development industry and for the local economy, this diversity is desirable. However, for educators and schools, it creates a long list of items to include in their curriculums for teaching.

Effective workforce development occurs when the citizenry is trained in the skills needed by employers. The Partnership participates in workforce development through a three-step process. First, the Partnership meets with existing industries to hear directly from plant managers and other leaders in the company about the skills they need from employees. Next, the Partnership's Director of Existing Business Development, Kelly North, meets with local educator representatives to communicate the information collected from industries on employee skill set needs. The list of local educators routinely met with includes the Bedford County school system, Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT), Motlow Community



College, and others. The final step occurs when the collected information from industries makes its way into educator curriculums.

Workforce infused teaching ensures Bedford citizens benefit from a host of educators diligently teaching from outlines reflecting employer needs. Meaningful curriculums allow our trained workforce to confidently apply for jobs with the knowledge that they are qualified and prepared to perform their work.

In August of 2021, in collaboration with the local TCAT, the Partnership held the first annual “Tenders and Tea” at the TCAT campus in Shelbyville. The event created an opportunity for existing industry management, education leadership, and local elected officials to network and cultivate productive relationships. The event brought together the creators and end-users of our workforce. Speakers for “Tenders and Tea” at the TCAT included a welcome by State Representative and Speaker Pro Tem, Pat Marsh, Bedford County Mayor, Chad Graham, City Manager, Josh Ray, and Assistant Executive Director of Middle Tennessee Industrial Association, Dr. Kendrick Curtis, and Shelbyville TCAT President, Dr. Laura Monks. Representatives from TVA, TNECD, and SBDC also attended the event. In closing remarks, Dr. Monks stressed the ability and willingness of the TCAT to work with local industry to train for workforce needs. The event concluded with TCAT staff providing tours of the campus. -GN

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BACK PACKS FILL THE GAP

By Tina Neeley

How the community
helps feed more than
150 kids in poverty.



WHILE MANY are making plans for the weekend centered around what and where to eat, numerous children in our county aren't sure they'll have enough to eat. The meals at school are one of the most stable and reliable resources in their young lives, but what about Saturdays and Sundays? Thankfully, the social workers of the Bedford County Board of Education, Marie McLean and Cynthia Cox, work passionately to see countless children and youth go home on Fridays with food to see them through to Monday through the Backpack Program.

The program is free (and volunteer-based) and started in 2010 under the Title X McKinney Vento act which focuses primarily on students considered homeless. The act is designed to facilitate the enrollment, attendance, and success of homeless children and youth in Tennessee schools. The local program has since expanded to meet needs of any students considered food insecure, which often includes students living with extended family members without the resources to fully provide for the children. With so much uncertainty in their young lives, food shouldn't have to be one of them, but, it is.

The Backpack Program is able to make close to 600 meals a month.

Many of our county's working families fall below the state's poverty level. Although both parents may be working, many are unable to afford extra groceries. The free breakfast and lunch programs provided by the school system are lifesavers, enabling families to stretch their incomes further on life's necessities. Still, a gap existed for ensuring the students would have enough to eat until the Backpack Program was initiated.

Local partnership programs and the guidance counselors identify at-risk students in grades Pre-K through 12th from all the schools in the county, and the counselors see to it that cinch-sacks filled with food items make it to the students every Friday, from September to May. On average more than 150 bags are given away weekly.

Although partially funded by the federal government, contributions to United Way by area residents, businesses, and churches have enabled the program to thrive.

School board member Diane Neeley said, "As a board member, I appreciate the churches, businesses, and individuals who fill the gap that so many of our students face. Due to the poverty level in Bedford County, programs like the backpack initiative are essential to the wellbeing of our students. There are so many needs met by the school system that the average citizen has no idea about. In addition to free breakfast and lunch for all students, oftentimes personal hygiene items: clothing, school supplies, and more are provided [by the school system]. Guidance counselors do an excellent job recognizing needs and finding resources to combat the needs." -GN

Donations by check may be made payable to United Way of Bedford County with "backpack fund" in the memo line and mailed to P. O. Box 1438, Shelbyville, TN 37162.

CARRYING THE WEIGHT



How the Shelbyville Police Benevolent Association cares for local cops.

By Tina Neeley // Photos contributed by Shelbyville Police Benevolent Association

QUIETLY PROTECTING our lives, area law enforcement officers are painfully aware of the weight of the loss of one of their own in the line of duty and are equally in touch with the impact of crime and violence on children and families. Lt. James Wilkerson of the Shelbyville Police Department was inspired following a 2014 leadership conference to support them. With the commitment of the other officers in the department, the Shelbyville Police Benevolent Association (SPBA) was formed and got right to work assisting their neighbors.

The SPBA makes financial donations when a Tennessee officer is killed in the line of duty, assisting the family with burial costs. In the unfortunate event

a Shelbyville officer is killed in the line of duty, special funds are dedicated to burial expenses. Other officers in Tennessee are aided when they encounter personal disasters, such as a home lost to fire or, most recently, assistance for two Waverly policemen who lost everything in last month's floods.

Within the community, their Journeyman Program pairs struggling students with an officer on school walkthroughs for conversation and influence, and \$2,000 scholarships are given annually to a student from Cascade, Community, and Central High Schools pursuing criminal science or law enforcement. Their Cops and Bobbers event this past May enabled 50 children from the community to spend a day fishing with officers and members of the Shelbyville Fire Department and Bedford County Sheriff's Department. Thankfully, their association was recently able to help fund the return of a trafficked teenage girl safely back to her home in California. And with great delight, the members look forward to making Christmas brighter annually for children and families they encounter through their work.

Funded 100% by donations, the 501(c)(3) has almost 100% participation through voluntary payroll deductions and accepts donations from individuals and area businesses. The SPBA will never solicit donations and benefits annually from its 5/10k run/walk, the Police Fun Run, held the last Saturday in September. **-GN**

To donate, see Detective Carol Jeans or Office Manager Kim Nash at the Department, 109 Lane Parkway, or call (931) 684-5811.



The Shelbyville Benevolent Association recently held a fundraiser for fallen Memphis Police Officer Scotty Triplett, who was killed in the line of duty.

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LOVE In Every DIE

**Bluebird Ice
Cream Parlor
and the 90-year-
old tradition.**

By Elena Cawley, experiencetn.com



A

TRIP TO Bell Buckle will reward your eyes with rolling hills and architectural delights. It will trigger your curiosity with history tales. It will warm your heart with the kindness of locals and satisfy your taste buds with delicious treats.

When you stop by Bluebird Antiques and Ice Cream Parlor, Nancy Phillips, better known as Mama Phillips, will welcome you and brighten your day. You will leave with a smile and a story to tell.

Bluebird Antiques and Ice Cream Parlor offers hand-dipped ice cream, homemade waffle cones, old-fashioned banana splits, homemade fudge, caramel corn, and Mama Phillips' fried pies.

What attracts visitors to the ice cream store is the devotion that goes into each of the homemade treats.

The family has owned the ice cream shop for more than two decades. Billy also owns and operates Phillips General Store and Antiques in Bell Buckle.

"We have only had the Bluebird Antiques and Ice Cream Parlor for about 25 years," he said. "But the store has offered hand-dipped ice cream for about 90 years."

The charming shop provides more than just tasty delights.

"It's the experience of it," Billy said. "That store has the original carved-oak soda fountain bar that's been there since the late 1800s."

He remembers eating ice cream at the store as a child. Today, decades later, the shop continues to create memories.

About 45 years ago, "little Billy was 5 years old, wandering down the street from one of those old Victorian houses where I grew up. And there was a lady here in town by the name of Ms. Jane."

She owned the ice cream store.

"Ms. Jane was a mother to every person that walked into that store," Billy said. "She was a mother to local families, local children and to the Webb School students. We have students from all over the world now. Back then, the students were from all over the United States, and these were homesick kids. They were missing their moms, and Ms. Jane took every one of them under her wing."

Ms. Jane ensured children who walked in the store enjoyed some ice cream – no matter if they could pay or not, said Billy.

"I grew up with this fondness and affection for Ms. Jane and how she operated this business and being a mother

to all of us," Billy said. "Years go on, and I go through school and start my career in the antiques. The ice cream store changed hands a couple of times, and it remained closed for about a year or two."

"My grandmother was a collector of antique bluebird china, and that's why I came up with Bluebird Antiques and Ice Cream Parlor," Billy said.

Mama Phillips continues the tradition of offering not just delicious treats, but also hospitality and generosity.

"My mom is the one that makes the homemade fried pies still cooked in cast-iron skillet," Billy said. "Mama Phillips is 85. She has been making those pies since she was 9 years old. On most days, she makes 10 dozen of them, and they sell out every day. People beg for the recipe, but that's part of the charm. There are some of us in the family that know how to make it. But I can just tell you honestly, none of us are ever going to work that hard. It is such a labor of love, of making homemade dough every day and homemade filling. It's very labor-intensive, and there are not many (people) that can keep up with the amount of labor that goes into making those pies. My mom takes pride in every single pie she makes. Love goes in every pie she makes." -GN

SCHOOL NEWS

Looking Out for Each Other

THE SCHOOLS MAKING BEDFORD COUNTY
A BETTER PLACE.

By Donna Copeland // Photographs contributed by James Jordan and Carol Garrette

LOOK BEHIND the scores and win/loss records for your Bedford County high school football teams and you will find growth in skills, accountability, and leadership. These young men are learning how to look out for their neighbors while taking care of their own responsibilities to create success.

Coach Josh Puckett at Shelbyville Central acknowledges that they've had a tough start to their season; however, he sees an increase in the players holding each other accountable and really putting in the work at practice to create consistent improvement. He hopes the team can see their dedication result in winning momen-

tum. He's particularly proud of his players' response to adversity and working to rebound and make good decisions under pressure. The team takes the legacy of the Bedford County Training School football team to heart. On September 3, a sign was unveiled recognizing the record-setting football team of the 1940s and early 50s.



Coach Jake Tyre at Cascade has seen his young team, with only five seniors on his roster, rise to the challenge of adversity. Whether a quarterback injury that puts pressure on the remaining players or an exceedingly close game where the team really pulled together and maintained their excellence to pull out a tough win, he is seeing leadership displayed through per-

sonal responsibility. Spectators in the stands may not realize the thought that goes into the coaching decisions that happen during games: who to play in which position and how to respond to the other team's strategy and skill. It is a delicate dance based on the needs of the moment for the team and the individual players as well as what the coaches have been seeing in practice.

Community's **Coach Chris Grooms's** team has a lot of upperclassmen playing and he loves seeing the tight group that is being built in his football family. Seeing them do things in and out of practice together demonstrates the trust they are building in each other. They play hard for each other and are "all in with everything they do" whether that is reviewing a game

film where they learn from mistakes or playing with perseverance against a tough opponent. Having all of his team in the same strength and conditioning class enables their after-school practice times to be shorter while decreasing injuries. This helps Coach Grooms's players to have more balance in their lives for academic pursuits and relationships.



Each of the coaches recognizes the challenge of COVID-19 and the uncertainty of how it will affect the season. They see their players taking more personal responsibility and awareness of their health through increased hygiene and making good decisions. These players, along with the support of their coaches and families, are demonstrating how to protect their neighbors and strive to do their best, on and off the field.

NEIGHBORS TAKING CARE OF OUR KIDS

Year-round there are unsung heroes of the maintenance and custodial staff who help to keep the schools and grounds in great shape. The pictures of Thomas Magnet School demonstrate how hard this maintenance team worked on painting, clean-up, and the grounds to prepare for the coming school year. Across the county, there are diligent workers doing jobs who may not be recognized so taking a moment to appreciate all of those team members for their dedication can mean a great deal.

Sometimes extra support comes from the local community and brings a big push to a project. Cascade Elementary staff and students were the fortunate recipients of playground clean-up done by Mathew Allen Trucking and Hawkins and Price Excavating. Looking out for each other and supporting our schools are part of what makes Bedford County such a wonderful place to live.

As the days move forward, having hearts of service toward one another and doing our very best in whatever role we are in demonstrates for students in all grades what it means to be part of a community. Whether on the football field or in the classroom, looking out for your neighbor is always in season. -GN



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HOPE



Photos contributed by Bedford County Pink Ribbon Fund

BEDFORD COUNTY PINK RIBBON FUND

Supporting breast cancer patients and survivors, along with their families and friends, in their battle against breast cancer.

Continued on next page →

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This project is funded under a grant contract with the State of Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

2021 PINK RIBBON WALK October 16

Join Bedford County Pink Ribbon Fund for the 2021 Pink Ribbon Walk
(as a team or as an individual)
You can register online to help women in the Bedford County area.



2021 LET'S ROCK October 16

Running or walking not your thing?
That's okay! Join the Bedford County Pink Ribbon Fund.

To date they have allocated \$120,000 in support to Bedford County residents battling breast cancer.

Go to:
bedfordcountypinkribbonfund.com
to register and find more info.

MISSION

The Mission of the Bedford County Pink Ribbon Fund is to support breast cancer patients/survivors, along with their families and friends, in their battle against breast cancer in the Bedford County region.

WHO IS BEDFORD COUNTY PINK RIBBON FUND?

The chairperson Dr. Katherine Erlichman (a two-time breast cancer survivor) and the innovative board leads the Bedford County Pink Ribbon Fund. It is a fund formed through the Bedford County Endowments/Community Foundation for the Alleghenies. They are committed to improving the quality of life in the Bedford County region. Numerous support opportunities are available to breast cancer patients/survivors, such as financial support, chemotherapy comfort care kits, wig/beauty consultations, volunteer drivers to doctor/treatment appointments and a monthly Breast Cancer Support Group meeting. **GN**



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BUILD



ING LIVES ONE HOME AT A TIME

Bedford Builds Habitat for Humanity is changing citizens' lives.

By Tina Neeley // Photos contributed by Pam Birtcil

IF YOU'RE new to Habitat for Humanity, start with a visit to the Habitat Store just off Shelbyville's Historic Square at 209 E. Depot Street. That sweet, inviting voice you'll hear belongs to Shontelli (pronounced Shawn-tell) Head. You'll immediately feel right at home.

Speaking of home, ask her about hers; and about working at the store; and about all the ways Pam Birtcil and the Habitat program change lives. Shontelli and 52 other Bedford County families became homeowners under a program that enables families with unconventional credit and income situations to buy a home through education programs and sweat equity at zero percent interest.

Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit organization that helps families build and improve places to call home. Bedford Builds Habitat for Humanity, our local organization, has been busy building homes and better lives here for over 26 years.

Their newest home build kicked off this September with a Build Up Bedford event to clean off the recently acquired lot on Oak Street in Shelbyville. The lot needed numerous trees removed and other site preparation work to hit the ground running with their 53rd house.

Before construction begins on any house, every penny of the construction costs must have already been raised. Costs are sometimes offset after completion by grants funded by Habitat Tennessee through THDA so those funds go into funding the next house. Other than the grants, Habitat is fully funded by

donations, the Habitat Store sales, and its annual Ball. Their annual Ball held each February almost completely pays for a house, especially if the land has already been purchased.

COVID-19 is taking its toll on all non-profits, but many of the Ball's sponsors continued their regular donations enabling the new build, and sales at the store allowed the organization to keep its four employees busy. Executive Director Pam Birtcil said, "If there's one thing COVID has taught me, it's that you have to be fluid right now; that's what I've learned the past year."

To qualify to purchase a home, you must live in Bedford County; qualify as HUD low income; have enough income to pay the mortgage; have a need for shelter; be willing to attend education classes; work 350 hours sweat equity; and pass a background and credit check. The 12 education classes and sweat equity programs usually take one and a half to two years to complete. The qualifying family gains credit working on the current Habitat home and working in the Habitat store.

The store's inventory is all donated, and everything purchased from the store goes back into providing affordable housing. The store is open to the public and welcomes donations.

You can donate online at www.bedfordbuildshabitat.org or mail checks to P. O. Box 122, Shelbyville, TN 37162. To volunteer to work on a home or in the store, please call the store at (931) 684-4300 to be placed on their list. **-GN**



LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

LOVE



YOUR



NEIGHBOR

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JAMES JORDAN

TAHA

&

MALIKA

MUHAMMED

BY JADA ROBISON // Taha and Malika Muhammed lived in Kirkuk, the heart of the Kurdistan region of Northern Iraq in the 1950s, and after escaping the heinous regime of Saddam Hussein, they landed in Shelbyville, Tennessee. This is their story.

In 1958 the English Monarchy was no longer ruling over Kurdistan after being overthrown and power was shifted to Abdul Karim Qassem. This change in power caused the Turks to fear that the Kurds would eventually gain their independence. Under the dictatorship of Saddam Hussein, the government was overthrown once again causing chaos and violence to erupt in Iraq.

Taha and Malika lost their 12-year-old son to Hussein's mercenaries in 1981 and in 1988 the Halabja chemical attack bruised Taha's heart. After years of suffering, Taha decided to make a plan to get him and Malika safely to Turkey. One bitterly cold night in November of 1990, they crossed the river and finally made it over to Turkey, but soon after, they were arrested by Turkish soldiers and were forced to be separated and kept under Turkey's oppression. After about a year, they were freed by American sol-



Taha was so moved by the kindness of the people in Shelbyville and their willingness to welcome and accept him...



Above: Some snapshots of Taha's life in Iraq before his immigration to the U.S. in 1991.

diers, Taha even recounts hugging one of them, and on September 24, 1991, Taha and Malika flew into America.

Upon coming to America Taha obtained both his bachelor's and his master's degree in Mathematics and began working as a teacher. Taha also worked for a while as a translator within the U.S. Army as well as for the Air Force.

MEET THE MUHAMMETS

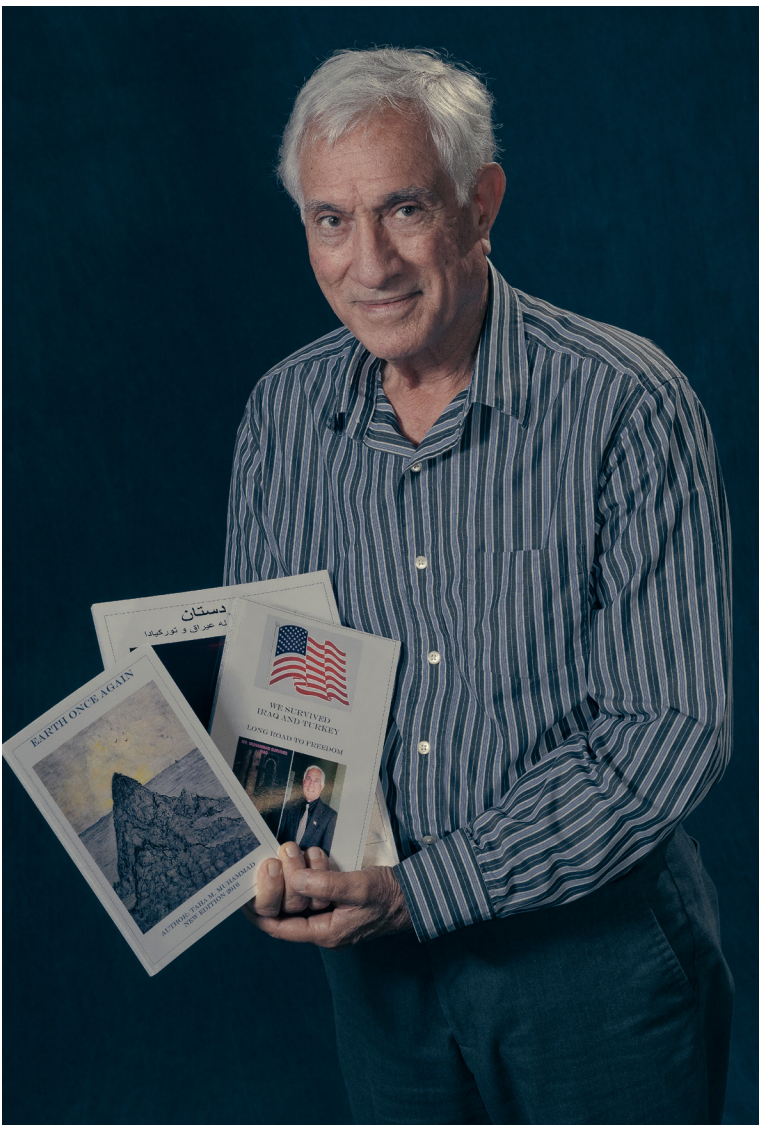
After Malika had to have a chest operation in 2017, they decided they would be better off moving from the cold state of Minnesota and wanted to move to Tennessee because their weather is similar to Kirkuk's. Originally Taha found a home online in Clarksville City, but after visiting there he decided to continue looking. He found a nice, affordable home in Shelbyville and without visiting the city, he purchased the house. They have been living in Shelbyville ever since.

Taha was so moved by the kindness of the people in Shelbyville and their willingness to welcome and accept him that he picked out two beautiful oil paintings

from his home and gifted them to both the Mayor and the Gov. of Tennessee. He believed that after the events of 9/11 they had every reason to treat him and Malika differently, but the fact that they didn't and he and Malika were welcomed with open arms meant everything to him. Taha said that it's important to remember that bin Laden was a muslim, but not all Muslims are bin Laden.

Taha has written two books about his and his wife's experience: "We Survived Iraq and Turkey" and "Thank you America." These books are meant to stand up against the oppression of the Kurds as well as educate others on the story of Kurdistan and hopefully help Americans feel blessed to live in a country like America.

Taha expressed that his reliance on God throughout his experience is what brought him to America and ultimately to Shelbyville. He hopes that people continue to extend a helping hand to every refugee who enters their community and afford them every opportunity to thrive in their new community just as Shelbyville did for him and Malika. **-GN**



LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR



TYLER CAMPBELL

BY DONNA COPELAND // The image of a seed cracking open in order to sprout is a powerful image for Tyler Campbell; it brings to mind how people feel in their darkest moments—like they are breaking apart. He likes to remind them that if the seed doesn't break open, it never becomes what it is fully capable of. Humans and plants alike can go through a transformational process then flourish on the other side.

Tyler, the owner of Kettle Classic, is a believer in the power of gardening and how it can give hope to his community. He loves educating children, and people who have never gardened, how to grow food with just some soil, seeds, and attention. According to Tyler, there is nothing more rewarding than learning how to sustain yourself and then share it with your neighbors.

GROWING HOPE TO CLOSE THE GAP

He is inspired to help those with low income be able to take ownership over providing food for their families while building valuable skills and community pride at the same time. Reducing the cost of groceries can help close the economic gap that exists for many Bedford County residents today. Everyone needs access to healthy fresh food and most people agree that home-grown fruits and vegetables taste better and are more nutritious.

Not only are gardens a feast for the body, they can also be a feast for the eyes with pollinator flower gardens to attract bees and wasps to help with production while looking lovely. Beautifying Bedford County is important to Tyler, and planting a garden is an inexpensive and hands-on way to do that year after year. Perennial flowers will return for many years to come with a little weeding and attention each season.

Beautifying Bedford County is important to Tyler, and planting a garden is an inexpensive and hands-on way to do that year after year.

According to Tyler, patience is a great lesson of gardening and in life. You need to do your part to make your garden a success but there are many times you need to step back and wait for the next step. It takes time for that seed to sprout and grow before it produces any fruit. Appreciating each phase of the growing cycle can help teach young gardeners to practice patience and diligence.

Tyler was once a young apprentice who enthusiastically harvested a watermelon for his grandmother, Dorothy Campbell. She wasn't quite as thrilled as he was since he had picked it when it still needed many more days to grow and then ripen before harvesting. His grandmother has been an inspiration in his gardening efforts which officially began in 2014. She helps him, even in her 80s, to grow on approximately half an acre of her farm. Tyler's grandfather, Roy Campbell Jr, passed away in April 2021, just about a month shy of his 96th birthday. It has been a tough adjustment for them both but his grandmother takes her responsibility seriously of educating Tyler to grow the best garden.

In addition to his grandmother's mentorship Tyler has also completed the educational requirements to become a Master Gardener. He is in the process of finishing his volunteer hours before realizing his dream of becoming a Certified Master Gardener. -GN



LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

*BETTER IS A NEIGHBOR
WHO IS NEAR*





*THAN A
BROTHER
WHO IS FAR AWAY*

JONATHAN

&

CAROL PRICE

SCHOLARSHIP

BY TINA NEELEY // Do your favorite fall memories include the Webb School Art and Craft Festival in Bell Buckle? Are you a fan of dinner theater at the Fly Arts Center? Do you love to linger for hours in the vendor booths at Antiques, Arts & Collectibles Mall on the Shelbyville Square? Have you been positively impacted by your childhood art teachers? Do you appreciate learning a new art or crafting a story gathered roundtable with like-minded friends? Then you've met Carol Price.

While you may never have personally met her, you've benefited from her influence if any of these connect to your story.

Carol Price came to Bedford County in 1976 as an artist-in-residence at Webb School in Bell Buckle. She founded the Webb School Art and Craft Festival and the Bedford County Arts Council and was a 21-year art teacher at Shelbyville Central High School.

FOR LOVE & THE ARTS

She helped shape countless lives in addition to her students. Some encountered her through the Fly Arts Center located in the historical Fly Manufacturing Building and home of the Art Council and its plays, classes, art galleries, and a history museum. Others through the Antiques, Arts & Collectibles Mall on the Shelbyville Square, home to numerous vendors and employees that benefited from Carol's friendship and example.



LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR





"She never did anything for attention. She did it because she loved the arts, and she knew what value it had and how it positively affects so many aspects of our daily lives."

Her friend Sue Thelen said "She never did anything for attention. She did it because she loved the arts, and she knew what value it had and how it positively affects so many aspects of our daily lives. She was tireless in fundraising and all aspects of the arts. She never stopped even when she was most ill -- she just never stopped. She was always someone you could depend on. I know she touched a lot of lives. So many grew up with her as their art teacher and went on to bigger and better things in their lives because of her."

Following the death of their son in 2019, the Jonathan Price Scholarship was started, and the first annual \$1,000 scholarship given in 2020 to Community High School student Kera Reynolds. The scholarship is awarded for Bedford County students in visual art, performing arts, literary arts, and/or music. With the limitations of COVID-19 in 2021, instead of the scholarship, the committee

donated fifteen \$100 gift cards to the art teachers in all the schools in the community.

Carol passed away August 7, 2020, but the scholarship and Carol's memory and influence continue. The scholarship committee today is composed of Chase Perryman (graphic arts), Jim Probasco (literary), Lynna Whorley Miller (music), Ashley Johnson (theatre), Larry Price and Stephanie Price, Jonathan's widow. Sue Thelen is facilitator and current president of the Arts Council, a position in which she was mentored by Carol.

Committee member Chase Perryman said, "Carol was instrumental in my growth as an artist. I wouldn't be where I am today, the Creative Director of a marketing agency, had she not believed in me. I am honored to sit on the scholarship board and want to help continue to mentor creative folks with the same fervor that she had for me." -GN

*WHAT
DOES IT
MEAN TO
LOVE YOUR
NEIGHBOR?*

BY WESLEY BRYANT // You take a bite of the warm cherry pie that melts in your mouth. It's still steaming sitting on your new kitchen counter. You're new in town, and the neighbor brought you a warm welcome. It was a nice, unexpected surprise that made your morning. They included you in one of the most stressful moments of your life. Moving is hard enough. Moving to a new place is even scarier. You don't have to do the awkward wave across the street to some nameless neighbor. You don't have to stalk them on Facebook to try to learn more about them. Scrolling for days and learning everything about this stranger.

You were shown love the first week in the new house. You were able to break the ice and fit right in. Was it the warm cherry pie? Maybe. But it's the hands that made it. The love in the ingredients. The kindness as your neighbor walked up your sidewalk.



This is a story of a hypothetical neighbor that made you feel at home, but it rings true no matter the situation. It could be someone you pass on your way to work. Someone sitting a row behind you at the Celebration, or maybe even someone you've never met.

Matthew 22/35-40 in the Christian Bible reads:

"35 One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: 36 'Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?'"

37 Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

I'm not convinced that the verses means only your next door neighbor. It likely extends beyond the stop sign at the end of the road. It likely extends beyond the walls of your church. It likely extends beyond the borders of our county and state. And I'm willing to bet it extends beyond the Pacific and Atlantic oceans.

We don't have a massive cherry pie for Canada, Germany, or China. But we do have our love. How we love other people will change the world. And when we love our neighbor with all our heart and all our soul, we realize it's not important where you come from or whom you voted for. But it does matter how much you love them and how much you show it.

So grab a slice of cherry pie and enjoy the stories of your neighbors. -GN



GOOD LIVING

How we live is up to us. Living a good and happy life is hiding in the way leaves breathe. It's hiding in the bright purple sunset every evening. It hides in the heart-beat of a rabbit racing across your front yard. When we appreciate every moment as a gift and everything around as a once-in-a-lifetime experience, our lives change. It might even change the lives of those around us.

HERE'S TO A HAPPY LIFE.





Grab a **PUMPKIN** make some **MEMORIES**

We recommend visiting these farm attractions and pumpkin patches this season!



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For years, families, schools, large parties, and more have come from across Tennessee and Alabama to experience the Farm Attraction of the Tennessee Valley: Lyon Family Farms. The annual Fall Festival is filled with attractions, events, rides, and endless things to do. From the largest pumpkin patch in the Tennessee Valley to the fun-filled Corn Maze, there's always something to do at Lyon Family Farms.

130 Bellview Rd Taft, TN • lyonfamilyfarms.com



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This historic working farm is located in the gently rolling hills of Franklin, Tennessee. Here you can pick your own pumpkin as well as experience educational programs for groups this fall. You can also sign up for a down-to-earth fun summer day camp. Gentry's Farm is a past recipient of the "Conservation Farm of the Year" for Williamson County for its efforts in stream mitigation and wildlife conservation easements.

1974 Highway 96 W,
Franklin, TN • gentryfarm.com

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4374 Rocky Glade Rd.,
Eagleville, TN • luckyladdfarms.com

TATE FARMS



Enjoy family fun, food, and gifts at Tate Farms. Bring the family or reach out to plan a corporate event to experience the joys at this farm in north Alabama. Finish the fall season with the farm's Pumpkin Destruction Day where they host pumpkin explosions, monster trucks, and games! Visit this massive farm and make memories that last a lifetime.

8414-A Moores Mill Rd.
Meridianville, AL • tatefarmsal.com

GRANDDADDY'S FARM



Granddaddy's Farm has endless things to offer for the family including, a corn maze, hayrides, an animal corral, and other fun attractions for young visitors. Their menus include delicious treats like the fan-favorite apple cider donut. The kettle corn and apple butter that are available for purchase were made right on the farm!

454 Highland Ridge Rd.
Estill Springs, TN • granddaddysfarm.com

HORSE'S TALE

Honey & Haley

CHAPTER 4: THE PIGGY BANK

By Wesley Bryant

This is a fictional story about Haley Duke and her young aspirations. We will release a new chapter in every issue of the magazine. Chapter 1 is in the July issue. If you do not have a print copy, you can find a digital edition on the Facebook page: Good News Shelbyville.

THE DUKE family, for the first time in a long time, got to spend time together. They got to sit around the living room laughing at silly accidents. Justine and Tommy cheered Haley on as she rode the imaginary horse through the hall. They sat around the square dinner table in the kitchen, sharing a meal. And every day that summer, Haley worked at her lemonade stand. She kept her piggy bank on the top shelf in her room. She had to climb on her bed and lean over to the wardrobe to slide the piggy bank back in its place.

At night, Haley slept in her bed; she talked in her sleep but you could never tell what she was saying. Tommy and Justine stood in the doorway one night. He held Justine as he leaned against the left of the doorframe.



"Do you think she'll ever get enough?" Justine asked.
 "Enougha what?" Tommy answered with a question.
 "Enough money for that horse she was wantin'."
 "She'll either work hard enough and get the thing, or she'll forget about it."

"She has worn me out about it. I don't think she's forgettin' anytime soon. She wants that thing," Justine said.
 "Then she'll spend every day at that lemonade stand."

Tommy was right. Haley was a little too determined to just forget something. It wasn't a new toy or wanting to drive the blue truck in the driveway (even though she was many years too young.) It was about getting her a best friend. A team that could ride between white lines and win a race or two.



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Spicy and hot shrimp. Served with rice and vegetables.

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AGAVE SPECIAL 12.99

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Grilled chicken on a bed of rice, topped with our cheese sauce.

POLLO EMPANIZADO 9.99

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POLLO CHIPOTLE 9.99

Grilled chicken breast with onion, topped with chipotle salsa. Mixed with sour cream and cheese.



POLLO LOCO 9.99

Grilled chicken breast served with rice, beans and a side salad.

CHORI POLLO 11.99

Grilled chicken, cooked with Mexican sausage. Served with rice and beans.

FAJITA QUESADILLA 9.99

Flour tortilla with your choice of chicken or steak fajita. Served with rice and beans.

Steaks

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T-bone steak topped with bell peppers, tomatoes and onions. Served with rice, beans, and tortillas.

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SHRIMP FAJITAS

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FAJITAS HAWAIIANAS

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Grilled chicken cooked with onion, bell peppers, and pineapple, topped with shredded cheese. Served with rice, beans, lettuce, pico de gallo, sour cream, and guacamole.

FAJITAS

FOR ONE 12.49 FOR TWO 20.99

Chicken, steak or mix. Cooked with onions, bell pepper and tomatoes. Served with lettuce, pico de gallo, sour cream, guacamole, tortillas, rice, and beans.

NACHOS FAJITAS

10.25

Grilled chicken or steak cooked with onions, bell peppers, and tomatoes. Topped with cheese sauce, lettuce, pico de gallo, guacamole, and sour cream.

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Steak, chicken, chorizo and shrimp. Covered with our Monterey cheese. Prepared with grilled onions, bell peppers, cactus, pineapple, and spring onions. Served on an authentic Mexican molcajete bowl. Comes with a side salad.

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“ *He knew that Haley was a star. If he had any doubts on her abilities before, he didn’t have them now.* ”

The sun rose the same the next morning. That loud rooster next door was just as loud as ever. Haley jumped up, looking up at her piggy bank, and ran into the kitchen.

The sun was beating down around noon. The humidity was relentless and not going anywhere. But the hotter it was, the better her lemonade tasted. When no one was around, she’d run to pick more honeysuckle. She always kept one eye on the stand, waiting for the next customer. From behind her, she heard the crunch of footsteps in the grass.

“Ahh, Momma’s secret recipe,” Tommy said.

Haley picked the bright yellow petals from the honeysuckle and held it up to her dad.

“You gotta customer walking up I think,” he nodded towards the stand.

The two made their way back to the stand. That day, Tommy was Haley’s sidekick. He helped her sell more

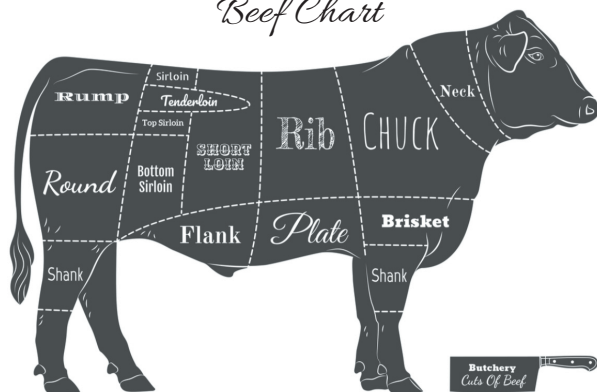
lemonade than any day before. He took money, helped make more, and talked with his old buddies he hadn’t seen in years. The Duke Lemonade Stand was catching on. Every day, little by little, word was getting around. The line stretched longer and longer every day. Around noon when everyone had lunch, they’d line up with their bag in one hand and money in the other to get some lemonade. For Tommy, it was all he’d ever wanted. He was working at his daughter’s lemonade stand. She was making money and, frankly, doing it better than he could. He was proud of her. He knew that Haley was a star. If he had any doubts on her abilities before, he didn’t have them now.

A few hours after lunch, Haley and Tommy were putting their things away when one more customer came up the driveway. He had been there many times before. But today was different. Different enough that it would change everything. Mr. Robert was back. **•GN**

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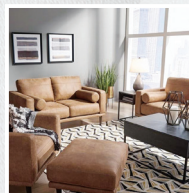
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Fall Picnics

in Shelbyville





SANDWICH CROSTINI

Submitted by Beverly Morris

Ingredients:

2 T. olive oil
1 ½ lb. pork tenderloin
salt & pepper to taste
⅔ c. mayonnaise
3 T. dijon mustard
2 cloves garlic, chopped
7 thin slices, ham cut into thirds
20 slices French baguette ¼ inch thick
2 T. oil
7 slices Swiss cheese, cut into thirds
40 dill pickle slices
parsley for garnish

Directions:

Preheat the oven to 425°. Heat oil in an oven-proof pan over high heat. Season tenderloin with salt and pepper. Cook until golden brown. About 8 minutes. Mix mayonnaise, mustard, and garlic in a food processor until smooth. Season with salt and pepper. Put mixture in a bowl, cover and refrigerate for 30 minutes. Put the pan of meat in the oven for 15 minutes. Remove, let rest for 10 minutes, slice into ¼ inch thick slices. Place bread on a baking sheet. Brush w/oil. Bake for 5 minutes. Place ham, pork & cheese on bread, broil until cheese melts. Add 2 pickles and mayonnaise. Garnish with parsley.

EASY SNACK WRAP

Submitted by Beverly Morris

Ingredients:

1 pkg. cream cheese, softened, 8 oz.
12 (10") flour tortillas
1 head of lettuce
deli sliced turkey, 6 oz.
2 c. carrots, shredded
2 c. tomatoes, minced

Directions:

Spread cream cheese evenly over tortillas. Top cream cheese with lettuce leaves. Arrange turkey slices over lettuce. Sprinkle carrots and tomatoes over turkey slices. Roll tortillas into wraps. Cut wraps diagonally into bite-size pieces. Secure with toothpicks.

PISTACHIO SALAD

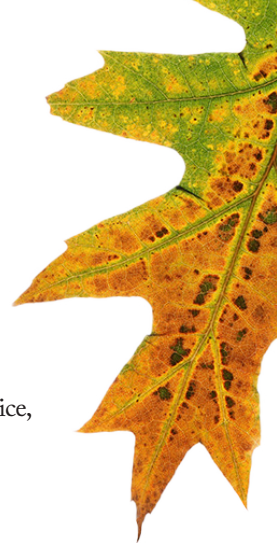
Submitted by Joyce Woosley

Ingredients:

1 sm. pkg. pistachio instant pudding mix
1 can crushed pineapple with juice, 20 oz.
1 c. mini marshmallows
1/2 c. nuts, chopped
1 carton Cool Whip®, 8 oz.

Directions:

In a large bowl, combine pistachio pudding mix, crushed pineapple, mini marshmallows and chopped nuts. Mix well. Blend in Cool Whip®. Pour or spoon into salad molds or dessert dishes. Chill. Keep refrigerated until ready to serve.



Find the perfect place for your picnic:



PHOTO BY: SUSAN STONEY

H.V. Griffin Park

Buddy Overcast Parkway,
Shelbyville, TN



PHOTO BY: TN EXPLORER

Duck Pond Park

1303 Fairfield Pike,
Shelbyville, TN

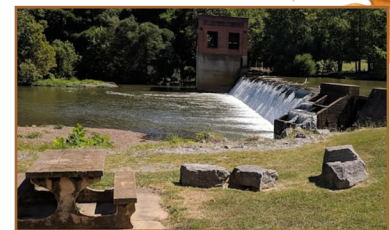


PHOTO BY: JOHN I. CARNEY

Fisherman's Park

213 S Cannon Blvd,
Shelbyville, TN



FAITH

I Am Third

HOW SHELBYVILLE'S
EASTVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH
HAS EMBRACED THE
"I AM THIRD" PHILOSOPHY

By Tina Neeley

SHELBYVILLE'S EASTVIEW Baptist Church has embraced the I Am Third philosophy and demonstrates their love and compassion for their neighbors through their various outreach programs.

I Am Third framed the life of legendary pro football player Gayle Sayers, whose life was portrayed in the 1971 film, *Brian's Song*. At the heart of it is the order of self: God first; others second; self third.

We more naturally look to having our own needs met first, then believe we can effectively love others out of a better place—a "next-in-order" place. But when Jesus said in Mark 12:31 to love thy neighbor as thyself, the picture is of an equal, selfless love and a command to simultaneously meet the needs of others as we are caring for ourselves.

Eastview's members follow this caring for neighbors as an important part of following Jesus.

Each Saturday their bread ministry delivers bread and produce to the church that are free for the taking. Sunday's service will feed your soul if you'd like to drop in for both. Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m. and the worship service at 10:30 a.m.

Everyone is welcome.

The church's food pantry, Gloria's Closet, named for founder Gloria Faulk, is a food ministry of special bags of groceries for those out of food at home and those who are homeless. "Each month, many families and homeless individuals are given food and spiritual resources to let them know that we love them and that God does, too," Pastor Mark Rosson said.

The church recently added a clothing closet. A room filled with donated clothes, shoes, coats, and even baby items are available to those in need, given by those who want to share their blessings.

The programs team up to meet great needs. Pastor Mark told of a recent event.

"A homeless man saw us updating the sign outside and asked if we had any food he could take with him. He came in and found bread on the table, canned goods from the pantry to fit in his backpack, and shirt, pants, shoes, and a jacket for the cooler weather coming! We also gave him a Bible and offered him spiritual assistance! Later in the day, [two others] went to the food pantry to supplement their food supply at home."

The Church meets needs of food and clothing and has been able to bless one member with affordable housing by donating a portion of the Church's land for the construction of a home through Bedford Builds Habitat for Humanity.

As we love God first, it's natural to take on the heart of Jesus – a heart that looks always to the good of others and extends love, grace, and mercy to every person. This placement of God as our first priority then seamlessly pours over into our placing the care of our neighbors second and ourselves last.

Loving our neighbors well is a natural by-product of a prioritized life. -GN

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Good News SHELBYVILLE



GOOD TIMES

"There's nothing to do in a small town." We hear it often, but is it true? There are Good Times every weekend in Bedford County. It doesn't matter if it's a picnic at the park with a new recipe, a lazy day with a book by the window, or visiting a local pumpkin patch with your family—there is something to do.

ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS SAY YES





CAR SHOWS AND CRUISE-INS IN THE SHELBYVILLE SQUARE SHOW THE COOLEST CARS IN TOWN.

By Trisha Sandora // Photos contributed by Celebration City Region Car Club, Inc.



9 ON A hot summer evening when the sun drops behind the skyline of the historic buildings that stand tall around the Shelbyville Square, you can hear them coming. It's not the usual sound of Friday afternoon traffic. It's the revving of perfectly tuned engines.

As they roll into town for a cruise-in, all eyes are on them— a Crown Victoria, a souped-up muscle car, a well-preserved Mustang, and a Frankenstein rat rod built from spare parts. Proud owners carefully back their cars into spaces around the courthouse square and then open the hoods. With polishing rags hanging from their back pockets, they attend to the details of their cars, while family members set up camp for the evening, complete with lawn chairs and coolers.

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Car shows and cruise-ins on the square are a time for

Reminiscing

The cruise-ins and car shows held at the Shelbyville Square are a pure slice of Americana, a portrait of America's love affair with the automobile, and a display of community pride. Meticulously renovated or restored cars represent the culmination of years of effort. And when these cars leave the safety of their garages and come to town, it's time to shine.

Everyone has a memory of a car, whether it was the first time behind the wheel, a first date, or a road trip to the beach. It's funny how the simple details of a car, such as the sound, the smell, the chrome, or the color can instantly take you back to that moment in time you had all but forgotten—like the smell of the vinyl seats in a 1966 Volkswagen Beetle. Or riding in the rumble seat of your grandfather's gray 1932 Ford Model A. Then there's the time all the neighborhood kids piled into the Country Squire family station wagon for a trip to the circus.

Car shows and cruise-ins on the square are a time for reminiscing, admiration, and sharing a few hard-earned bragging rights. It's a showcase of impressive cars and the stories of the people who own them. Cars, food trucks, kids, and dogs, what more does a person need?

For more information about the car shows and cruise-ins on the Shelbyville Square visit [Historic Uptown Shelbyville](#) on Facebook. -GN





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BEECH PARTY

AT BEEHCRAFT HERITAGE MUSEUM

Story and Photography by Sparky Barnes

Every October, there's a Beech Party in Middle Tennessee! Come help celebrate native Tennessean Walter Beech's remarkable contribution to aviation history and aircraft manufacturing by attending Beech Party on October 13 through 16, 2021.

Wave after wave of iconic airplanes can be seen and heard as they fly in to Tullahoma Airport for this annual gathering. They'll be tied down on the field adjacent to the Beechcraft Heritage Museum, forming row after row of splendid living history, ranging from iconic Golden Age Staggerwing biplanes and twin-engine Beech 18s to sleek Bonanzas, corporate King Airs, and rare turboprop Starships.

In recent years, there have been well over 100 aircraft which have flown to



Beech Party from as far away as California and Canada. Many of these airplanes have been carefully restored, and are beautiful representatives of the various Beechcraft models. This year marks the 80th anniversary of Beech's World War II AT-11 and AT-10 Trainers, and

the theme is "Celebrating America!" Additionally, the Duck River Model A Era Car Club of Tennessee complements the vintage aircraft flight line with its eye-catching lineup of antique cars.

Walter Beech was born in 1891 on a farm near Pulaski, Tennessee. He started





“ You don’t have to be a pilot to enjoy this rich historical education in aviation. ”

-JODY CURTIS

- EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, BEECHCRAFT HERITAGE MUSEUM

flying in his early 20s, and was especially drawn to air racing and barnstorming in those early days. Beech continually achieved new heights in aviation, particularly in the business of designing and producing fast airplanes.

After Beech married Olive Ann Mel-lor, the intrepid young couple established their fledgling aircraft company in Wichita, Kansas, in the early 1930s. They were determined to build a better biplane, and they succeeded. It was a robust-yet-elegant design that could cruise 200 mph. The wings had a distinctive negative stagger, hence the name: Staggerwing. From then on, numerous models of aircraft were designed and built by Beech; Beechcraft is still being manufactured in Wichita by Textron Aviation.

The Beechcraft Heritage Museum was first established in a turn-of-the-century, two-room log cabin at Tullahoma in 1973. Since then, the facility has evolved into a 78,000 square foot, climate controlled, world-class aviation museum. Among the 38 aircraft on display are a Staggerwing without its fabric covering, which provides an amazing view of its intricate wood and steel tube construction, and a steel frame cutaway Bonanza.

The Museum is open year round, so even if your schedule doesn’t allow you to attend Beech Party, you can still see a wide variety



of Beechcraft and discover intriguing information about Walter and Olive Ann Beech, as well as the famous designers and pilots who made Beech airplanes popular.

“You don’t have to be a pilot to enjoy this rich historical education in aviation. Our exhibits include Smithsonian-quality aircraft and artifacts,” said Jody Curtis, Executive Vice President, adding, “the museum is situated on a picturesque campus adjacent to the Tullahoma Regional Airport. We’re open Tuesdays through Saturdays, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults; \$8 for seniors 65+ and youth ages 12-17; children under 11 are free. Beech Party admission rates include flight line access, museum tours, and seminars conducted by renowned



speakers for a daily rate of \$50 with discounts for Museum Members (\$40/day) and Aviation Affiliates (\$45/day).” -GN
For more information, please visit beechcraftbm.org, or call (931) 455-1974, or email info@beechcraftbm.org. The Museum is located at 570 Old Shelbyville Highway in Tullahoma.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration

Photography by James Jordan





THE TENNESSEE Walking Horse National Celebration took place from August 25 to September 4 on more than 100 acres. The Celebration grounds in Shelbyville are the largest event facility in the state of Tennessee. The 2021 World Grand Champion is John Allan Callaway with Justified Honors. Justified Honors, a four-year-old stallion, is owned by Lisa Baum. According to the Celebration's Facebook page, John Allan became the eighth rider in the 83-year history to win back-to-back World Grand Champion titles. See more information about the Celebration on their facebook page or website: twhnc.com





COMMUNITY EVENTS

The American Mule and Bluegrass Festival

Photos contributed by
American Mule and Bluegrass Festival

THE AMERICAN Mule and Bluegrass Festival was founded as a way to give back to charities in the Bedford County area and to enjoy American Made Mules, Music and Crafts. The AMBF included events and performances throughout the week including a craft fair, wagon train, chuckwagon dinner, mule shows, live performances, Picker's Alley, and much, much more!



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

02

Farm to Table Dinner

October 2 • 5:00 pm

Doddy Creek Farm,
Normandy

Join Doddy Creek Farms and Chef Jordan Arcuri, recent Chopped Beef Champion and local steakhouse chef, in Franklin, TN for a farm to table dinner featuring local Akaushi Wagyu Beef.

Fall Dinner and Auction

October 2 • 6:00 pm

Blue Ribbon Circle,
1110 N Evans Street

03

Scouts Day at Pumpkin Patch

October 3 • 12:00 pm

Lucky Ladd Farms,
4374 Rocky Glade Road,
Eagleville

Middle Tennessee area Scouts and their families are invited to join us, October 3, for our 10th annual Scouts AG-venture.

Women of Worship

October 3 • 5:30 pm

Lynfield Gardens, 904
TN-82 E, Bell Buckle

Devotional time with guest speaker Ranea Brown, boxed dinner, s'mores, pumpkin carving, hot apple cider, and a hayride.

07

Pumpkin Festival

October 7 • 10:00 am

Lucky Ladd Farms,
4374 Rocky Glade Road,
Eagleville

08

Jack Daniels BBQ

October 8 • 8:00 am

Wiseman Park, Lynchburg

Craft booths, games, and World Champion BBQ'ers in action.

09

Breast Cancer Dance-a-Thon

October 9 • 1:00 pm

Shelbyville Recreation Center, 220 Tulip Tree Drive

Honoring all Survivors, present, past, and advancing for the future. Door prizes, raffles, silent auction, medical, nutritional, beauty presentations relating to Breast Cancer, Music, and more.

8th Annual Fall Craft Fair

October 9 • 9:00 am

First Cumberland Presbyterian,
402 N. 2nd Avenue,
Lewisburg

Fall Crafts, Christmas Gifts, a little bit of EVERYTHING! Direct Sales for all your beauty, clothing and accessory needs, along with a lot of great treats to eat.

Ghoul's Night Out

October 9 • 9:00 am

Promise Manor,
686 Motlow Barn Road,
Lynchburg

Sami Kay Cookies is hosting a Ghoul's Night Out at Promise Manor! Tickets: \$75/ea Price Includes: Cookie Class with Sami Kay Cookies Fall Floral Arrangement with Bees & Blooms.

11

Wellness Retreat Unplug! Relax! Renew!

October 11 • 2:00 pm

1705 Kingdom Road,
Bell Buckle

Join us for one day, two days, or all week or as your schedule allows. The goal is to unplug, relax, and renew mind, body, and spirit. We will focus on healthy food, natural medicine, and fitness.

12

Friends of the Library Annual Author's Luncheon

October 12 • 12:00 pm

Blue Ribbon Circle

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13

Morning Story Time

October 13 • 10:30 am

Shelbyville Bedford County
Public Library,
220 South Jefferson Street
Ages 0 to 6

15

Fall Family Fun Festival

October 15 • 10:00 am

Lucky Ladd Farms,
4374 Rocky Glade Road,
Eagleville
Corn Maze & Pumpkin
Patch

16

Bell Buckle Downtown Show

October 16 • 8:00 am

4 Rail Road Square,
Bell Buckle

Lewisburg Hempfest

October 16 • 11:00 am

Rock Creek Park,
101 Old Farmington Road,
Lewisburg

Come join us for a day
of live music, food, and
vendors at Rock creek
park in Lewisburg. We
are excited to bring the
community back together
and we encourage you
to dress in your
Halloween costumes.

Old-Time Harvest Days

October 16 • 8:00 am

31 Main Street E,
Wartrace

The festival will feature
artisans, craft and food
vendors, live music, and
more. Crafters, artisans,
and tradespeople
are encouraged to
demonstrate the making
of their products for a
show and tell.

17

Classic Car Day

October 17 • 2:00 pm

Big Creek Winery,
7027 Main Street,
Christiana

Come check out cool
cars. Drive your cool
car. Come support local
businesses. Taste wine.
Grab something to eat
from The Table of Cuba
Food Truck, Vendors,
and lots more!

21

The Webb School 150th Anniversary Community Celebration

October 21 • 4:30 pm

The Webb School, 319
Webb Road East, Bell
Buckle

4:30 p.m.

The Bell Buckle Chamber
of Commerce and The
Shelbyville-Bedford
County Chamber of
Commerce invite you
to attend a community
event to celebrate
The Webb School's
150th Anniversary.

Open House

October 21 • 5:00 pm

Cedar Hall School,
3552 Rock Springs
Midland Road, Christiana

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

22

TNVA Clash of the Clans

October 22 • 9:00 am

Rising Glory Farm,
2616 Franklin Pike, Lewisburg

Compete not only for individual awards but for a chance to win \$500 or more for your club! Introducing the Second Annual TNVA Clash of the Clans!

Fourth Friday Fest

October 22 • 5:00 pm

Shelbyville Square

After-hours shopping at Uptown merchants, local craft vendors & food trucks. Enjoy the car club's cruise-in and live music. Activities you can join in will include scavenger hunts, cornhole and selfie stations/photo booths.

Cruise-In on the Square

October 22 • 6:00 pm

Shelbyville Square

Every 4th Friday evening on the Historic Shelbyville Square. Everybody is welcome! Bring your own car or just come look!

23

Lego Club

October 23 • 10:00 am

Shelbyville Bedford County Public Library

LEGO Club (Grades K-6th) is on Facebook. To connect with LEGO Club (Grades K-6th), join Facebook

2021 Fall Banquet by High Calling Ministries

October 23 • 6:30 pm

2011 South Cannon Blvd.

2021 Fall Banquet and Silent auction fundraiser! Tickets are \$50 and all proceeds go towards funding our outreach projects in the community! Dress to impress.

Southern Fall Craft Fair and Food Truck Rally

October 23 • 9:00 am

597 West Ellington Parkway, Lewisburg

Crafts, food, music, and a good time to do some gift shopping before it gets too crazy out there at Marshall County High School in Lewisburg. They will have early trick or treating and photo booth.

Boo and Brew Festival

October 23 • 4:00 pm

Shelbyville Square

Haunted History Tour

October 23 • 8:13 pm

A walking tour of Historic Uptown Shelbyville with true stories of ghost sightings and unusual happenings.

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OCTOBER

24

Men's Breakfast

October 24 • 8:00 am

Riggs Church of Christ
5905 Nashville Highway,
Chapel Hill

26

Medicare Open House/Seminar

October 26 • 10:00 am

Microtel Inn,
1207 N Main Street

Medicare Seminar to get your questions about Medicare answered by one of our licensed agents.

29

Count Drahoon's Feast of Fright

October 29 • 7:00 pm

Bellamy Cafe, 104 Main Street, E, Wartrace

Count Drahoon and his Merry Mob of Mayhem return live to give you radio tales of fun, fright, and phenomena. Join us at the Bellamy Cafe in Wartrace, TN for an exclusive dinner "radio" theatre.

Old Fashioned Haunted Evening

October 29 • 5:00 pm

Downtown Bell Buckle Pavilion, 104 Main Street

Spooky fun with all the favorites – a haunted house, pumpkin carving contest, storefront trick or treating, and Halloween movies at the downtown pavilion!

Trunk or Treat on the Square

October 29 • 6:00 pm

Shelbyville Courthouse Lawn

Trunk or Treat on the Square. Food Candy, movie at dark.

30

Bell Buckle Park Scarecrow Contest

October 30 • 10:00 am

Trick or Treat on the Square

October 30 • 3:00 pm

Shelbyville Downtown Square

Haunted History Tour

October 30 • 8:13 pm

Shelbyville Downtown Square

A walking tour of Historic Uptown Shelbyville with true stories of ghost sightings and unusual happenings.

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A close-up photograph of a chef's hands, wearing a grey apron, garnishing a dish. The chef is sprinkling fresh green herbs onto a plate that contains a piece of seared meat, a whole roasted onion, and a boiled egg. The background is a warm, slightly blurred kitchen setting with various ingredients like tomatoes and leafy greens visible in the foreground.

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