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JULY 2022

INDEPENDENT



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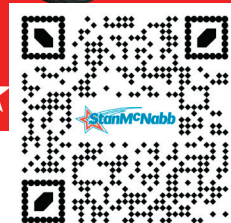
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- Benjamin Franklin

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

The Sound of Trumpets

Independence for a more perfect union.

IF YOU took a snapshot of any 10 years in our country's history, there is a hurt we were trying to heal. The same is true today. It's our independence that lets us correct that, to heal, and to build our country up for a more perfect union. We can all be made by the same Creator and still land somewhere else on what we believe. We can be different. That is the beauty of independence. This land is your land; this land is my land. Sometimes, people just want to feel heard. And finding a common ground through compromise can be the answer. Learning to listen is the answer.

We can be better because of the people in our communities. Those who allow us to be independent provide an open field. We can run for miles into the unknown, and while it's scary, we know we are capable of whatever waits on the other side. We can run with the wind to our backs, hitting the ground to the beat of drums and trumpets that empower us. The same trumpets that rang as we fought a civil war to end slavery. The same drums that banged as we flew to Europe to end the second world war. The same trumpets that helped us stand in September of 2001.

While perfection is almost impossible to attain, it's our duty to fight for it every day. To get closer to the threshold of freedom and equality for everyone. Independence is a blessing that paints a beautiful picture of blues and reds, that when you pull away, makes a purple you can only find between the Pacific and Atlantic oceans.

This issue of Good News highlights those in our community that make us better. It's their independence, and fight to obtain it, that make us who we are.



Wesley Bryant
Wesley Bryant,
MANAGING EDITOR

In the June 2022 issue, we listed the Pack the Park Car and Truck Show as the 10th semiannual occurrence on page 77. It was the 11th.

From our readers



Do you have family and friends in Franklin County who would enjoy Good News?

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Thank you for reading Good News!

"We've already gotten several calls from being in the magazine. People called to make an appointment saying 'We don't know anyone who uses you but we saw your ad in the magazine.'"

— *Lori Burtt, Adult and Pediatric Dermatology Skin Solutions, Tullahoma*

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INSIDE GOOD NEWS

Meet the Team

We asked three Good News team members:
“How has working on the Good News team changed you?”



BRIANNA BRUBAKER

Layout Artist

“When you work on a magazine with a mission to spread love, joy, and positive news, it’s really hard not to apply those same principles to your personal life. This wonderful opportunity has brought me so much hope as I watch the community come together to celebrate their local heroes.”



TINA NEELEY

Story Writer

“Working with the Good News team fuels my passion for stories that encourage, uplift, and remind us we’re not alone in our life experiences. It has also teamed me with other creative spirits that energize my work and motivate me to grow and learn and impact our communities.”



MICHELLE HARWELL

Proofreader

“With no experience and very little confidence in myself, I joined the Good News team with a lot of apprehension. I had definitely stepped out of my comfort zone. As someone who always second guesses herself, I was doubtful about my decision and had some concerns. What do I have to offer? Will I “fit in?” Will I be an asset to the team? Do I have what it takes to “learn the ropes” of this new position? There were so many questions that would eventually be answered. Everyone on the team was so positive and inspiring. They welcomed me and assured me that I would do a great job. I’ve learned so much from each of them, and their continuous encouragement has helped bring me “out of my shell.” As a proofreader working alongside the managing editor, I gained a lot of knowledge very quickly. But that’s not the only thing I gained. I gained more confidence in myself, and I also gained the opportunity to be a small part of an amazing team, working together, doing big things and bringing Good News to our communities!”

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 our community; it's in our homes; it's in our future.

GOOD NEWS STAYS ALIVE AS LONG AS WE SHARE IT.

PHOTO BY BROOKE SNYDER






Animal Harbor



CITY NEWS

A Job Well Done

Compassus volunteers are recognized for National Volunteer Week.

By Kali Bates // Photo contributed by Compassus

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER Week was recently observed April 17-23. To further mark the importance of the week, President Joe Biden declared National Volunteer Week in a presidential proclamation to remind the nation that America is a country built on service and to call on individuals to do their part to improve the lives of others.

Established in 1974, the week has grown each year with thousands of volunteer projects and special events scheduled throughout the week.



*“It’s incredible
to see the work
they do.”*

- Julia Logan-Mayse

Organizations that celebrated locally included Compassus. The organization celebrated with a luncheon for its volunteers that are vital to its operation.

For the past 26 years, the hospice and palliative care organization has been providing families with the necessary assistance for patients in need of hospice or palliative care in six counties which includes Bedford, Cannon, Coffee, Franklin, Grundy, and Moore counties.

For volunteer coordinator Julia Logan-Mayse, she applauds the efforts and dedication of her volunteers.

“It’s incredible to see the work they do,” she said. “It’s moving and emotional sometimes because they come to us and ask to be volunteers. You really got to want to do hospice work to do that. There are lots of volunteer opportunities out there. Sometimes our volunteers come to us from being served by us. They may have had a loved one or family member on our service, or have been a part of a hospice experience with a family member or someone they know. And they realize that they want to give back in this way. It’s a beautiful thing to witness, and I feel privileged to see what I see.”

ABOUT COMPASSUS

Compassus saw its beginnings 26 years ago with Mary Wise and her husband, Dr. Robert Wise. The couple had moved to Tullahoma and realized a need for hospice services in the area.

With Mary at the helm and with the support of community leaders, she presented her case to the state for a certificate of need, in order to offer the hospice services in Tullahoma and the surrounding areas. The organization was named the Hospice of the Highland Rim.

In 2005, Mary made the decision to sell the organization to Community Hospice of America, thus changing the organization’s name from Hospice of the Highland Rim to Compassus.

According to Logan-Mayes, today the organization serves 12 counties total.

“We service 12 counties total. We service six counties out of Tullahoma, and we have six counties out of [the] Columbia and Lawrenceburg offices,” she said.

Logan-Mayes also added that the past two years have been a challenge for the organization with the emergence of Covid, but it also has seen the organization’s volunteer efforts strengthen.

“Medicare requires that all offices have a volunteer program and a bereavement program,” she explained. “Not only do they require that, but they say you must meet [the] 5% goal of your clinical hours, so that

“Volunteers are the only human beings on the face of the earth who reflect this nation’s compassion, unselfish caring, patience, and just plain loving one another.”

- Erma Bombeck

is a pretty active volunteer team. Of course, the last two years have been unprecedented unlike any timeframe that we have gone through. My focus during that time was to maintain connections with my volunteers. Now we are slowly getting back into facilities and visiting our patients there. Volunteers are also getting assignments out in the homes for patient caregiver relief. This enables caregivers a chance to get out and do normal errands like going to the grocery or to the doctors. They don’t provide any hands-on care, but I tell them all the time that they are the heart of hospice.”

The organization also provides a more hands-on volunteer approach with their 11th-hour volunteers.

“Those are volunteers who decided they want to do a little more, and they sit with a dying patient,” explained Logan-Mayes. “This requires more training and digging in a little deeper as to what to expect during those last hours of life.

There might be limited circumstances where that caregiver just needs a break and to take a good nap or take some time away. So, the 11th-hour volunteer would know that this person is dying, and they would be bedside so they would not die alone.”

FOR THE FUTURE

Logan-Mayes, who has been with the organization since 2006, said she strives to get the word out about the importance of the program.

“The thing that we hear most is that they don’t realize what we do, or they don’t realize all of what hospice does,” she said. “I speak with a lot of civic organizations and church groups to help educate about what we offer. I think once we start talking about it, it kind of takes the fear out of it. We are also available to just give information to caregivers. Things that they might have thought of or where to get started in their caregiving journey.” **GN**

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COUNTY NEWS

A Silver Celebration of Hard Work

Cat Murray celebrates 25 years of printing and serving the community.

By Kali Bates // Photography by Brook Snyder

HUMBLE BEGINNINGS in designing a flier for a friend's business have led to a quarter century of business for Catherine Murray. Known affectionately by the community as "Cat," she is the sole owner of McMurr's, a print and copy shop that provides almost anything one can think of when it comes to business cards, copies, posters, wedding invitations, and the list goes on.

Murray recently celebrated 25 years in business with a ribbon-cutting held by both Tullahoma and Franklin County Chambers of Commerce.

Her journey in the printing business goes back to 1997 when she was living in California, working and doing part-time work as a disc jockey.

"A friend of mine wanted me to make a flier," said Murray. "He was my hairdresser. He then told someone, and they told someone, and so on and so on. I had a little inkjet printer at the time, so I printed on that."

Murray said she looks back at her beginnings with fondness, as she wasn't even interested in owning a computer.

"The funny thing is that I started working at NASA in 1995 when I lived in California, and I didn't even own a computer," she explained. "I didn't want to use a computer. I saw people doing work on Excel and thought



it looked boring. I was an intern, and they assigned me to work with a guy who used Photoshop. I thought it was pretty amazing and got really interested in that. I was given the software before I even had a computer. I finally got a computer around '97. And I just taught myself. Lots of trial and error and lots of reading."

Murray moved to Tullahoma in 2000. "After moving to Tullahoma, I wasn't really going to work but continued DJing occasionally, providing wedding and graduation video productions and graphic design from home. Word got around, and I had to rent a space in town. I was also teaching senior citizens how to use their computer. So much for not really working. After the newspaper did an article on my video services, I was approached by Mrs. Liecety, the principal at Farrar, to do a video of the fifth graders. I think that was around 2001. I've been helping there ever since."

Murray has become a staple at the school, helping raise funds for the school and volunteering with students in any way she can. She just finished her 21st field day, providing music for the children to get their "groove on."

The printing side of things for Murray became more serious as the demand for her products rose.





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“Around 2002, I had been doing graphic design for my realtor,” she explained. “That eventually led to printing. After designing flyers and business cards, I had to outsource the printing of them, so I decided to open a printing business. And the rest is history.”

Today she has expanded her print offerings and provides a wide variety of options to her customers. She said she works hard each day to provide her customers with the best products and the best customer service.

“I always tell people I don’t feel like I am competing with anyone,” she said. “There could be 14 printers in this town, and it wouldn’t matter to me. As long as I, and my team, are doing what we are supposed to, and to the best of our ability, then I am good.”

She is also continuing to DJ and stays booked, sometimes years in advance.

“I only do it once a month,” she said. “I stay pretty booked up. I was asked in 2021 to do a graduation in 2023. I’ve been doing this so long, I’m now DJing weddings of students that went to Farrar.”

She also hosts an annual music event, “HIStory told by Her,” where Murray performs songs from pop music icon, Michael Jackson. The event started out as a one-time fundraiser for Farrar and has now been taking place, sometimes bi-annually, for more than 10 years.

According to Murray, the inspiration for the show came from her deep-seated love for all things Michael Jackson and a desire to help people. This gives another avenue for her to help those in need in the community and an opportunity for people to come together and enjoy a fun, family show.

Over the years, the event has benefitted a wide range of nonprofit organizations and schools that include Jack T. Farrar Elementary School, Robert E. Lee Elementary School CDC, Horse Play Inc., the Literacy Council, Alzheimer’s Tennessee, and CASA Works Inc.

Murray said while it is hard to believe the time has flown by, she has enjoyed every minute of the past 25 years.

“I love it. I learn something every day. I love helping people,” she said. **GN**

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SCHOOL NEWS

Educating students about realities of alcohol

Franklin County High School holds a mock prom disaster to crack down on underage alcohol consumption.

By Kali Bates
Photos contributed by Amy Crabtree

Franklin County High School (FCHS) recently held a mock prom disaster in the school's parking lot. The event was scheduled before events such as prom and graduation, to educate students on the realities of consuming alcohol and driving. The event was modeled after the statistic that every 15 minutes someone dies because of an alcohol related accident.

According to Amy Crabtree, who helped coordinate the event, it was meant to give a real-life view of such a disaster.

"We wanted to not only discourage teens [from] drinking and driving after the prom, but any other given day," she explained. "There was a four-car accident scene set up in the parking lot, and some of our seniors and Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) students participated as actors/actresses. Of the 12 involved, five of them 'died' in the scene. The scene played out from the beginning of the accident to the end, which was Life Force landing on scene and 'transporting' one victim, while juniors and seniors observed.

Crabtree is a registered nurse and a health science instructor for the high

school. She has been with the high school since January and became involved with the event to help out.

"One of the areas that I have become involved in is the HOSA club. Rita Sliger is the main HOSA sponsor. In years past, pre-Covid, the mock prom disaster was staged every other year by Ms. Sliger and the HOSA students. After a HOSA meeting one afternoon, Ms. Sliger mentioned possibly starting the mock prom disaster again this prom season. I offered to start making calls for her. I started contacting local emergency personnel, and the rest of that is planning history."

Crabtree said that the first responders and local officials jumped at the chance to help.

"From the first phone call, they were all so eager to help," she explained. "Our [school resource officers] (SROs) recruited two more SROs to help, Matt Walker and Adam Lindsey. Officers Redmon, Tiner, Walker, and Lindsay help us with crowd control during the event."

Crabtree added that Winchester police and fire departments along with Dechard Police Department served as responding

officers, and the fire department brought the Jaws of Life to extract victims from the cars. Tennessee Highway Patrol officers Corey Stuart and Randy Euler acted as arresting officers for the drunk driver.

“[Accident and emergency] provided us with two ambulance trucks and the following personnel: Ben Smith, [critical care] (CC) Paramedic; Ryan Painter, [advanced emergency medical technician/licensed practical nurse] (AEMT/LPN); Ashley Wingard, CC Paramedic; Matt Parker, AEMT; and Cassie Smith, AEMT,” said Crabtree. “The emergency responders responded to the injuries of the victims, just as they would in real life. Eric Breedlove, flight [registered nurse] (RN) and his crew with Life Force landed the helicopter on scene and was able to load up a victim to transport. These responders were a great asset to us!”

Jason Ikard and Ikard Towing also provided the school with the four wrecked cars for the scene.

Crabtree said what she hoped to convey to students was the all too real consequences of such actions.

“This is not something that a teenager probably has a really good grip on when it comes to drinking underage,” she explained. “Especially because they live so much in the moment, and honestly it’s one of the things I love about them. Yes, they see drinking as a way to fit in, let loose, drown problems, etc. But that isn’t the reality. The reality is the consequences. Because the consequences of consuming are heavy. The reality of underage consumption is the 12 victims we had in the mock prom accident scene. The reality of underage consumption is the five “deaths” we depicted. The reality is the drunk driver that caused the entire scene. Reality is living with knowledge and pain that you took another person’s life because of one choice you made. Reality is a parent grieving for the rest of their lives because their child was taken off this earth too soon.

Reality is that a senior that got airlifted may never fulfill their career dreams or any other goal they had set for themselves, all because of an alcohol related accident that ejected them from a vehicle.”

Crabtree said she feels like the event was well received by students, and they were impacted by what they saw.

“The majority of the feedback that I have gotten from the students was that they were impacted by it” she said. “That the scene and how well it played out made them more aware of the danger associated with drinking and driving. Feedback from other faculty members was positive also.”

As a former FCHS graduate herself, Crabtree said she gives all the credit to those who helped and that it felt good to be a part of an event that could help a student make the right decision long after prom night.

“I made some phone calls and arranged for a bunch of stuff to happen at about 9:30 a.m. on April 14,” she said. “The students and emergency personnel made this all happen. But it feels good to be here. I want everyone to see the good things that these kids are doing. I think oftentimes, the 5% of bad overshadows all the good. So it’s my goal to put out all the good stuff these kids do here at this school and in the community.” GN

BELOW: Winchester police & fire departments along with Decherd Police Department worked with Franklin County High School to host a mock prom accident to show the dangers of drinking and driving.



ABOVE: Local fire department shows mock accident to students.



Industry and education: a winning combination

Local industry teams up with Franklin County High School with endless opportunities for students.

By Kali Bates

WHAT HAPPENS when local industry and a high school team up? They create an endless amount of opportunities for students to find employment in their own hometown, post-graduation, and they offer local industries the ability to recruit talented graduates to boost the quality of their workforce.

Franklin County Industrial Development Board Director Kelli Riley and Franklin County High School Career and Technical Educational Director Suzanne Mitchell have teamed up to make the most of a talented student base and a growing industry front. The two met just months ago and struck up a friendship and a common goal: to give local students the opportunity to work in Franklin County.

Currently across the state, there are 16 career clusters that, according to the Tennessee government website, encompass virtually all occupations from entry through professional levels and are aligned with the U.S. Department of Education's structure of career and technical education.

The site also explains that career clusters identify the knowledge and skills needed to follow a pathway toward career goals and provide a context for exploring the many occupational options available.

Clusters include, but are not limited to, advanced manufacturing, architecture and construction, transportation, distribution and logistics, agriculture, food and nutrition, and health sciences.

According to Mitchell, of the 16 clusters, 12 of those are offered between Franklin County High School and Huntland High School.

"What we aren't able to offer, we partner with Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT),"

she explained. "We partner with industrial development and the chamber to try to let the students know about job opportunities. We want students to know that there are job opportunities in Franklin County regardless of what their educational level is. There are entry-level jobs straight out of high school, and there are pathways for them to go to TCAT. And if they go on to obtain a bachelor's degree or attend a university, there are opportunities for that as well. We are really wanting to broaden the knowledge of what's available and let them know that we want you to stay here and work here."

Mitchell added that these opportunities have been available to students before her taking helm as director. While covid did slow things down and limit students from going out into industries, Mitchell said now post-Covid they are getting back into the swing of things.

"We did these things prior to Covid, but Covid put things on a limited scale. We are just now being able to get back out there and into the community and get the students back into industry," she said.

Riley said she is excited about the future of working with the students and the asset they will be to local industry.

"I work with [the schools] very closely," she said. "We are excited about bringing students in as much as possible. Next year we have plans for students in both the welding and carpentry classes to construct a sign for our industrial park. We also have certifications available for students through local industry. Seniors can get certifications in different areas of welding. We also have industries that offer machining where students can obtain the same certifications." **GN**



“I made my senior year fun. I didn’t let the pressure of being a senior, and all of the sports I was involved in, get to me. I made it fun.”

- KARA MCDANIEL

SPORTS NEWS

Keep it fun

Franklin County High School senior enjoys state success while enjoying the last year of high school.

By Kali Bates // Photos contributed by Jason Daugherty

SENIOR YEAR for a high school student can be lots of things. It’s a time of wrapping up your secondary education, spending as much time as possible with your friends before graduation, and making big plans for what happens next in your life.

For Franklin County High School (FCHS) senior Kara McDaniel, her senior year was all about keeping it fun and not putting too much pressure on herself.

This task hasn’t necessarily been an easy one for McDaniel. Along with her academic responsibilities, she participated in three sports that included track, cross country, and soccer.

However, having such a busy schedule paid off for McDaniel as during her senior year she made not one, but three state appearances for each sport she participated in.

McDaniel was a member of the high schools’ track team, cross country team, and girl’s soccer team. All of which attended state competition for their respective sports in the 2021-2022 season.

“It’s definitely been exciting,” said McDaniel. “With our soccer team, we weren’t even expected to go to state when I first started. My freshman year, we were last in our district. And for cross country, my junior year I had shin splints. I didn’t know if I would make it back for my senior year. And for track, I expected to make it but our 4X8 team wasn’t even competitive last year. And we had the same four girls. It just goes to show how much we grew and improved since last year.”



McDaniel said she doesn't feel like she did anything different for her senior year as far as training; however, she did feel as though her attitude had changed for the better.

"I feel like I've always had a "go get'em" attitude, but last year (2021) and in years past, my mind set wasn't as positive as it was this year. My coach had even said to me that he had never seen me so motivated and ready to go," she said.

Through a hectic senior year, McDaniel said she kept it all in tow and just worked on each game or event as it came. She said she's left her high school athletic career with lessons that will last her a lifetime.

"I've felt what it feels like to be last. But my [track] coach, [Jason Woodall] was very motivational and told me that losing is ok and that you have to lose to win. And that is something that also happens in life," she said.

FCHS athletic director, Kelly Kennedy, said that she and the school are proud of McDaniel's dedication on and off the field and know that she will continue to be successful in whatever she takes on.

"Kara is an awesome kid on and off the competition field," said Kennedy. "She works hard in every area of her life and is beloved by the students and staff at Franklin County High School. Kara exempli-

fies the meaning of class, dedication, and kindness. While we will miss her next year, we know she is going to accomplish great things at the next level and we couldn't be more proud of her!"

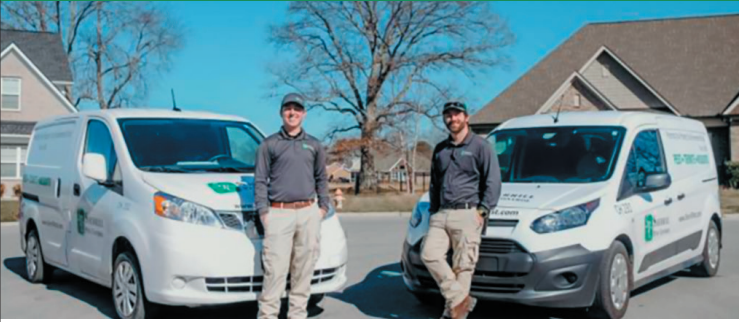
McDaniel is set to attend Milligan University in East Tennessee where she plans to major in student ministry. She will also be participating in track and cross country.

When asked what advice she gives to incoming seniors, she said to keep it fun.

"Don't let the pressure get to you," McDaniel said. "I made my senior year fun. I didn't let the pressure of being a senior and all of the sports I was involved in, get to me. I made it fun." **GN**

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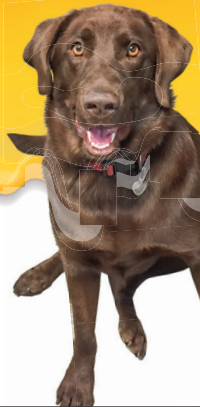
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PHOTO BY BROOKE SNYDER





TRAINING FOR SUCCESS

Animal Harbor's new agility course aims to increase shelter dogs' quality of life, increase adoption rates, and keep adopted pets in their homes.

By Tina Neeley // Brooke Snyder

A NEW DOG, we imagine, would be a wonderful addition to our homes. We immediately picture wet kisses and cold evening cuddles. We see the perfect spot for his bed in the living room corner and envision long walks on autumn days, enjoying the turning leaves and cooler temperatures. We won't be able to keep up with all the responses to the darling Facebook posts of our selfies together.

Not long after the ink has dried on the adoption papers, reality settles in. Dog hair falls faster than rain. The perfect bed has yet to be slept in and is now home to random shoes and toys. Letting the dog out in the wee hours of the morning and cleaning up accidents has grown old. Forget the selfies – who's got time for that?

It's a cycle Animal Harbor knows much too well.

Director Emily Holland said, "We have a ratio of about 20 animals coming in for every one animal going out locally, so the demand is much higher for surrendering animals here, than it is for adopting them."





People often surrender their pets or return adopted dogs due to behavioral issues. However, the poor behavior is often attributable to their length of stay in shelters and lack of enrichment and training in the home. Holland explained, “Dogs are here longer than we would want. When they’re not mentally stimulated and restricted from their tendency to be natural explorers of the world or just given the freedom to ‘be a dog,’ they appear to be acting badly. They sometimes develop undesirable shelter behaviors such as barrier aggression or reluctance to connect with a human, which slows the adoption.”

But a new training program has reached its first milestone. The Anne Giles Canine Enrichment Program now has an agility course and a trainer.

The current foster-to-adopt process includes fostering a dog for a minimum of two weeks before adoption. In addition to in-home fostering, complimentary one-on-one training during the foster-to-adopt process will enhance the opportunity for success for both the dog and the adoptive family.

Holland said, “The driving force and motivation for us to have this program up and running is to positively impact the low adoption rates and the shelter

animals’ mental distress and all that comes with it. It’s definitely a domino effect. It is important to stop the cycle and let our adopters know that they aren’t in this adoption process alone. We want every adoption to be a success, and we consider each and every animal and human that comes through our doors as a part of the Harbor family.”

The other way to further decrease the number of animals needing to be rehomed is to increase the number of community spay and neuter procedures through our Spay and Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP). It’s financially feasible, thanks to funds that have been made available to the shelter. For qualifying low-income families they are free at this time thanks to grants from The Bissell Pet Foundation and The Templeton Foundation.

The shelter is home to both dogs and cats. With local adoption rates so low, Animal Harbor utilizes transport/rescue to rescue programs and has a Northern adoption program to enable life-saving adoptions. Animal Harbor partners with Bissell Pet Foundation, Rescue Riders Pet Transport, and about a dozen other foster-based Northern rescues, to offer adoptions in other states. Adoptable animals are less plentiful in

these states, and resources are more readily available than in our local demographic. The shelter population would be even worse without this resource, and animals would be subject to grave mental decline residing in the shelter for months to even years at a time.

“From the last monthly activity report, six animals were moved through adoption locally, and then 20 moved through transport, so overall it’s a really big statistical difference. While that sounds like a lot of lives saved and moved out of the shelter, the kennel space was reoccupied within only two weeks! We have to transport to save lives because we don’t euthanize for space, and the local demand to surrender animals is higher than we have seen in years. We would be sitting at capacity without anything moving for months, sometimes up to a year, if we didn’t transport to other areas,” said Holland.

Donations are always needed. Financial contributions assist with costs of operation and vet services. In addition to monetary donations, puppy food, kitten food, clumping cat litter, and cleaning supplies are always greatly needed. However, donations of adult dog food are not needed, although it is the first thought of shelter-related donations. A partnership with a food bank out of Chattanooga provides the shelter with high-quality, low-priced dog food.

The shelter cycle can be positively changed by the new training program, by increased participation in local adoptions, by spaying and neutering, and through your donations. Let’s make repeat owner surrenders and returned adoptions a thing of the past, move forward with a more positive local adoption program, and make Franklin County a better place to live for companion animals. **GN**

Animal Harbor is located at 56 Nor-Nan Rd., Winchester. For more information or to donate online, go to animalharbor.org or follow the shelter on Facebook.



MORE THAN FIREWORKS & COOKOUTS

Independence Day's history plays a part.

By Tina Neeley



Here are fun facts to challenge your players:

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE:

John Hancock's was the first and only one on July Fourth. The remaining signatures were added over time, following the Fourth of July.

The average age of the signers was 45. The youngest was 27, Thomas Lynch, Jr., and the oldest was Benjamin Franklin, at age 70.

Two signers went on to become U.S. presidents: John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. Coincidentally, Jefferson and Adams both died on July 4, 1826, within hours of each other.

The Declaration of Independence began as a letter to Britain's King George explaining why the Continental Congress desired its independence from Great Britain.

The writing took three days. It began on July 2 and was completed on July 4, 1776.

56 signatures appear on the Declaration of Independence.

FIREWORKS SHOWER the night sky in brilliant colors. Red, white, and blue punctuate the explosions. Friends and family enjoy homemade ice cream in scattered lawn chairs on freshly-mown grass while the children play nearby. As the grill and the humidity cool down, a day of celebration is wrapping itself in pyrotechnic glory, preparing for its finale. It's been good to be together again.

But Independence Day is more than a federal holiday offering an extra day off. The celebrations we enjoy are possible because of our forefathers' hard work and commitment to freedom.

We will always have much to learn from our country's journey to independence. The July Fourth holiday is the ideal time to explore its history, if only for a few minutes each year. Consider adding a history trivia game to your celebration.

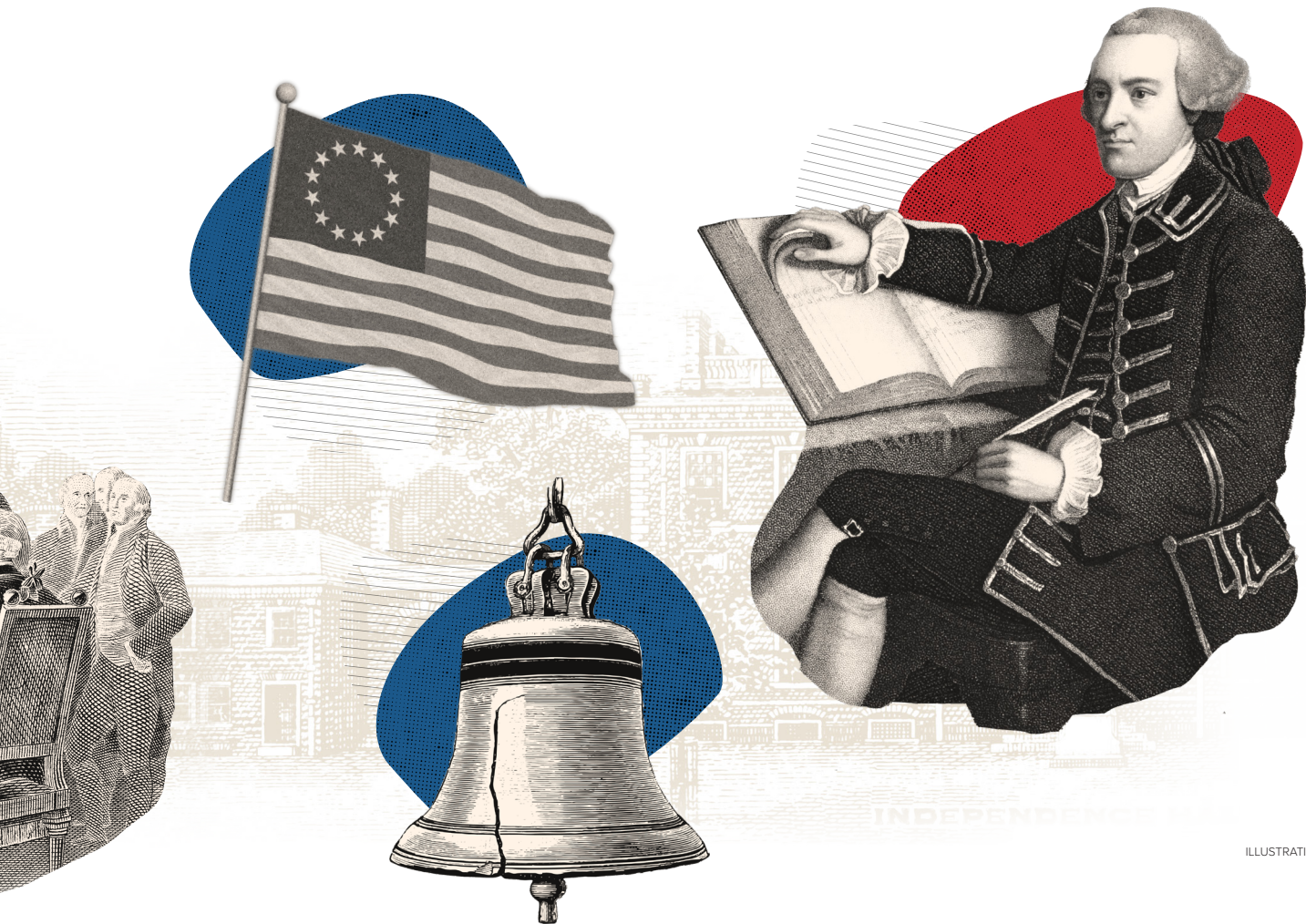


ILLUSTRATION: BRIANNA BRUBAKER

PHILADELPHIA'S INDEPENDENCE HALL:

Formerly the Pennsylvania Statehouse. It was the location of the declaration's adoption.

LIBERTY BELL:

Philadelphia is the birthplace of much of America's history and is home to the Liberty Bell. Each Independence Day, the bell is tapped 13 times in honor of the original 13 American colonies.

AMERICAN FLAG:

The stars on the original American flag were placed in a circle so all of the colonies would be equally represented.

NATIONAL BIRD:

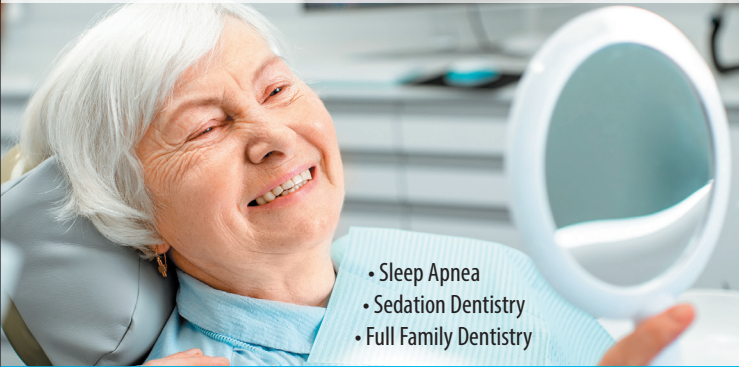
Benjamin Franklin proposed the turkey as the national bird of the United States. John Adams and Thomas Jefferson overruled him, and the bald eagle became the national bird.

Your Independence Day trivia game will grow each year with our country's rich history and today's easy access to information. Your knowledge and appreciation for your country and the freedom it affords, will grow exponentially as well. Now, that's a fun fact!

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LICENSES & LEARNING



Boating camp at Tims Ford Lake mixes water safety training with fun.

By Tina Neeley // Photography by Ashleigh Newnes



POWERBOATS, HOUSEBOATS, jet skis, jon boats, and even sailboats all make appearances at the annual Spirit of America Youth Boating Camp on Tims Ford Lake.

As the interest in water recreation continues to increase, so do accidents and fatalities. Boating camp incorporates fun and safety education for area youth ages 12 to 15. It's a week filled with hands-on training in handling a multitude of watercraft, led by Ranger Dalton Smith.

"Camp is for the kids, but they take that information home, and their parents learn from it as well," Ranger Smith said.

Camps run Monday through Friday, and this year's camps will be June 20 - 24 and July 25 - 29. It is a week filled with hands-on education as well as visual and auditory learning.

- Monday is water safety training on how to survive different situations.
- Tuesday is the Tennessee state boating education course and license test.
- Wednesday the students drive the boats that they're now licensed to operate.
- Thursday is large vessel safety education and boating law enforcement.
- Friday is paddling and sailing - canoes, kayaks, paddleboards, and sailboats.

It is a Spirit of America program, but Ranger Smith has added two other fun features that are unique to the Tims Ford camp: an airboat and houseboat. Most students only experience airboats on Florida vacations. Houseboats are popular on Tims Ford Lake and have sewage, electricity, and water connections, and campers learn to safely work with the utilities.

Ranger Smith said, "We'll do jet skis. We'll do jon boats with an outboard motor and tiller handle. We'll do a center console boat with the steering wheel in the middle. We do pontoon boats and the airboat rides. They don't drive the airboat, but they get to drive everything else and learn maneuvers, turning, backing up. They get a first-hand feel for it all."

The law enforcement segment is good for many reasons. It teaches them that everything they've learned is not just important, it's the law. It also gives them a glimpse into possible careers that might be of interest to them. They might one day pursue a career in boating enforcement, work as a state park ranger, or in general law enforcement.



The most unexpected experience though, may be the sailboating.

“It’s on the trailer, completely unrigged. We go through all the terminology and all the parts. The students are the ones doing all the rigging up. We’ve been blessed the last couple of years with good weather for sailing. The kids learn to catch the wind and figure out how to make it go, turn around, and stop. That’s an experience a lot of kids don’t have – a sailing experience,” said Ranger Smith.

He said, “We want to make sure they not only get to experience and learn about, but that they come out of class confident they can do it all again.”

Classes are limited to a maximum of 20 students. Applications may be obtained and returned in person or by email from the park office. The cost is \$75 per student and some scholarships are available.

Volunteers to provide lunch, snacks and drinks, and other assistance during camp are needed and welcomed. You may also help by sponsoring tuition. **GN**

For more information, to apply, or to volunteer, please call the Tims Ford State Park office at (931) 968-3536, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.







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Good News MAGAZINE

JUNETEENTH



ILLUSTRATION: BRIANNA BRUBAKER

OUR NEWEST NATIONAL HOLIDAY

FREEDOM RINGS A LITTLE LOUDER ON JUNE NINETEENTH.

By Julia Eads

‘F REEDOM’ enters the chatroom, and immediately it’s all, barbecued meat and who’s got the biggest bang of a firework show. While Independence Day is our nation’s designated time to pause and celebrate freedom and independence from Great Britain, the day is not all-encompassing by any means. Freedom remained a lofty and painful longing for African Americans. Liberty was a far cry from reality, day in and day out.

Imagine waking up each morning achy and sore. Physical, mental, and emotional exhaustion weighs heavily on your entire being, even during sleep. You would spend your day tilling a land you would never own, even if you had the money. With each pickaxe swing, you buried another seed of hope deep within the cold, hard ground. Independence and freedom was for white men.

Not every seed of hope withered. Some seeds took root and grew into an army of human rights leaders. Scattered throughout many different spheres of influence, these powerful leaders primarily held positions within the political and military arenas. President Abraham Lincoln stood out among them. Lincoln knew slavery, in any form or fashion, could not and should not be justified. Therefore, he issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863. This proclamation established that all enslaved people “shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free.” (History.com, December 2009). As foundational as signing this document was, in reality, the Emancipation Proclamation did not immediately free enslaved people.

Many enslavers held out on sharing this news until harvest time was over. Many more chose not to communicate the information of liberty with those enslaved to them and instead picked

up and snuck away to Texas, as it was viewed as a safe zone for continued enslavement. It’s no surprise that even two years after the Emancipation Proclamation had been signed into effect, hundreds of thousands of people still lived in bondage.

However, on June 19, 1865, federal troops were sent to Galveston, Texas, to take control of the state and help ensure that all of those who were enslaved would be set free. According to archives found in the Texas State Library, Union Major-General Gordon Granger read General Order No. 3 to the people of Galveston on that day. It stated:

“The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired labor.”

Upon hearing this decree, jubilant celebrations broke out among newly freed black people and friends. National holiday or not, the victory of Juneteenth was seared within the souls of man, that very day. The year following 1865, freed men in Texas organized the first of what became an annual celebration of “Jubilee Day” on June 19. The celebration grew larger and more prominent over the next few decades. Texas became the first state to make Juneteenth an official holiday. Then in 2021, President Joe Biden signed a bill into law, making the day a national holiday. Juneteenth honors the end of slavery in the United States and celebrates freedom for all people. **GN**

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JULY 2022



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BROOKE SNYDER







THE DREAM MAKER

American freedoms continue the cycle of life.

by Tina Neeley

WHEN VIKTOR Makela arrived in America from Finland, the Statue of Liberty welcomed him. He brought more than a few material possessions with him; he arrived with a heart filled with dreams. Makela disembarked into a nation whose foundation promises an opportunity for prosperity and success for every individual. It was a voyage that would change history.

Viktor married Maria Luoma, also a Finnish immigrant, and had three children, one of them a son, Reino, whom they called Ray. Ray married another second-generation Finnish immigrant, Eva Pyykkönen. Their daughter, Mary Barra, who spoke at the Duke University commencement ceremony on May 8, 2022, tells more about them:

“My mom came from a large family with eight kids and grew up on a farm in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. She grew up in the Depression, and they were very poor. My dad grew up in Minnesota, on the Iron Range, also during the Depression. He earned a Gold Star Medal and the Purple Heart while serving in World War II,

and he worked for General Motors (GM) for 39 years as a die maker. They both believed in the American dream: If you worked hard enough, got yourself an education, and believed in yourself, you could achieve anything,” Barra said.

Mary Barra took it to heart.

In 1980, while attending General Motors Institute (now Kettering University), Barra worked as a co-op student for General Motors, where she inspected hoods and fender panels on the Pontiac Grand Prix. She paid for her college tuition with the money earned from this job, graduating in 1985 with a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering. Barra then obtained her master’s degree in business administration from the Stanford Graduate School of Business on a GM fellowship.

Barra’s work at GM continued in various administrative and engineering positions, one of which was the Detroit/Hamtramck Assembly Plant manager. She seized every professional and educational opportunity presented to her by GM. Her hard work paid off.

In 2014, Barra was named the

first female CEO of a major big-three auto manufacturer and was the most powerful woman on the Forbes list in 2017. Today she is the fourth most powerful.

Barra said in the commencement ceremony, “I’ve always been a big believer in the expression that ‘hard work beats talent if talent doesn’t work hard.’”

Barra’s management style is saturated in honesty, hard work, a genuine listening ear, and all-inclusive policies, offering every employee the opportunity to pursue their dreams.

Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness undergird our freedom. It’s a freedom that began with the founding of our country and still remains, 246 years from the signing of the declaration. It has been bought at a price. It is a privilege that continues to be possible through the ongoing service and sacrifice of others.

This freedom allows independent spirits to pursue their dreams. Inherent to their success is the desire and the means to help others pursue their dreams. It is a cycle of life in the land of the free.



A DOUBLE PORTION

David Click wouldn't trade his military experience for the world.

by Tina Neeley

THANKS TO the U.S. Air Force, David Click has visited places around the world that he might never have seen otherwise. His 20-year military career was filled with travel, work, camaraderie, and training. It also enabled Click to experience life in other countries and cultures under different conditions than in America.

Click joined the United States Air Force in February 1967 from his hometown of Granite City, Illinois. As the end of his initial enlistment neared, he had a decision to make.

"I'd been in for four or five years and was doing pretty good on rank. I was overseas at the time and liked where I was stationed, so I reenlisted the first time and planned to stay a total of 20 years," Click said.

Entering military service during the Vietnam War, Click served on two bases in Thailand: one in Ubon, close to the Cambodian border, and the other in Korat. But he was stationed in Spain for the longest time, two tours for a total of about 11 and a half years. It was where he met his first wife and where their two daughters were born.

Click said, "I loved Spain and toured practically the whole country. Most of the time, the residents treated you just like anyone else, but you were kind of a novelty when you got into the small communities."

Although Madrid enjoys over 300 days a year of sunshine, it was not the reason Click chose a military career.

"When I enlisted, I felt a sense of duty. Nothing we have is free. We have to pay for everything we get, and one way to pay for our freedom is to serve in the military. It's good for young people to serve because they get a taste of what freedom really is," he said.

Click's time in Cambodia stood in dark contrast to his time in Spain.

He said, "In Thailand, most of their people didn't want us there. Certain places weren't safe. They would rob you or beat you up. I felt





sorry for some of the people there because of the way they had to live.”

The time spent immersed in the everyday life of other countries sharpens the gratitude for freedom.

“When you’re overseas, you need to get out and look around. You’ll see things that you like and things you don’t like. You see different customs and things that make you appreciate what you have here.” Click continued, “We need to remember where our freedom comes from and support those still serving. Our freedom’s not really free; it has been bought by people serving in the military.”

Click spent 11 years in Spain, a year in Thailand,

a year in Korea, and temporary duties in Turkey, Sardinia, Germany, and Iran.

The educational opportunities available to the military are another highlight of any military career. Click’s training and schooling equipped him for active duty and civilian life. Click received an associate degree through the Air Force’s community college and on-the-job training as a specialized mechanic.

Click explained, “For the first 15 years, I was an aerospace ground equipment technician. I worked on all the equipment used to service the aircraft, including the bomb lifts. For the last five and a half years, I was an aircraft accessory systems superintendent.”



Click is from a family of military servants. The family of five boys and one girl, saw three brothers serving at once during the Vietnam War. Their dedication to our freedom separated them from their families. For seven straight years, Click didn't see his family in America but recalls with fondness the time he and his brothers surprised their mother by coming home together for Mother's Day.

Click's last duty station was in Blytheville, Arkansas. His older brother was stationed at Seward Air Force Base in Tennessee, and Click visited him from time to time. As retirement approached, the E-8 Senior Master Sergeant's older brother suggested he retire to Franklin County. Unmarried at the time, Click made the move to Tennessee and began the next stage of the best of his life.

Click's younger brother also lived in Tennessee, was married, and introduced his wife's sister to Click. Soon, the brothers were married to sisters. It's a marriage still going strong 32 years later. His stepdaughter and her husband are now serving our country and about to be deployed. It reminded Click that a service member's family serves together.

"Some tours separate you from your family for a year at a time. They're still having to go on and do everyday things while being left behind. That's where military family comes into play. They'll come and help the wives that are left behind, things like that. They take care of each other. Even



buddies left behind can be counted on to take care of your family if something really bad happens," Click said.

During his years in Franklin County, Click worked for Plymouth Dodge and Chrysler for 26 years as an ASE certified master technician. Advance Auto Parts was his work home for the next six years, where he delivered parts.

Now fully retired, he realizes the military isn't for everyone.

"There's some good things and some bad things. It's what we make of it. Our attitude is everything. Like they say, 'home is where you hang your hat,'" Click said.

We're glad he hangs his hat in Franklin County. Thank you, sir, for your service.





FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

Franklin County Veterans Flag Memorial honors local veterans twice a year.

by Tina Neeley

FRANKLIN COUNTY residents have a long history of service to their country. It's a history still being uncovered and honored through the Franklin County Veterans Flag Memorial, an American Legion Post #44 program, now in its third season.

Each veteran is honored by an American flag and a cross handcrafted by Tom and Gina Isbell. At the base is the cross bearing the veteran's name, time of service, and whether it was during war or peace. The flag runs through the cross. The memorials are placed along major highways and thoroughfares each Memorial Day and Veterans Day and remain displayed for two weeks. An alphabetical listing of the location of each marker is placed in the Herald Chronicle enabling you to locate a specific flag and cross.

While it's natural to place them in honor of a family member, many Franklin County veterans have no family to sponsor them.

Commander Raymond Cobb said, "We have names of individuals who no longer have family living in the area. Don't let loved ones or anyone else in Franklin County who served this country for our freedom go unrecognized."

An excellent opportunity for individuals, businesses, and organizations to sponsor these veterans is possible through information obtained by the post.

"There were 28 veterans that we know moved to Franklin County after the Revolutionary War. We have 780 veterans from Franklin County who served in World War I, and I'm sure many of them went over there as young men and were killed and never returned home. We know of those. We are working on World War II now," Commander Cobb said.

If you purchase a memorial for one of these, you receive the veteran's name. Many interesting stories and history have roots in these orphaned veterans' lives. Some stories are related to family history, while other details immerse and preserve stories of veterans not previously known to us. Commander Cobb and his wife have experienced this first hand.

"We found out that my wife's great, great, great grandfather served in the Revolutionary War. Through the Department of Defense archives, we found that he received a pension for eight years of \$80 per month and a piece



of property in what is today known as the territory of Tennessee, around Tims Ford State Park. He's buried at the edge of the park. You can find an awful lot about your relatives if you do a little bit of research, and you don't have to spend a lot of time doing it," he said.

The memorial influences people of all ages.

Commander Cobb said, "One day, I was in front of Traders Bank putting up some signs, and a car drove by real slow. You could tell they were looking for someone. It was a boy, about 8 or 9 years old, with his face pressed against the window. You could see his lips, and he was reading each cross as he went. It's things like that."

A memorial may be purchased for a one-time fee of \$125. Applications may be obtained through members of American Legion Post #44 or by calling Commander Cobb at (931) 308-8914. Applications are also available at the three Winchester funeral homes.



FOOD, FIRE- WORKS & FUN



Celebrate our freedom with your community.

by Tina Neeley

WE WELCOME a summer celebration more than ever, and Independence Day is the perfect time to gather for food, fun, fireworks, and flag-waving. There's an event near you, so there's no excuse for missing the colorful shows.

Check out one or more of these salutes to America →

BELL BUCKLE is hosting a night filled with magic, in a manner that would make our forefathers proud. On July 4, from 5-9:30 p.m., the city will offer music, food, fireworks, and free admission. Catch the Escape Band at the Bell Buckle Park Amphitheater. A highlight of the evening is always the recitation of the Declaration of Independence, a long-standing tradition that unites those attending and rallies a standing ovation each time.

For more information, visit bellbucklepark.info or follow Bell Buckle Park on Facebook for this and other events.



SHELBYVILLE'S annual celebration will be on July 4, in the H. V. Griffin Park. Activities begin at 5 p.m. and will include music for the evening, by Utopia. There will be food trucks, arts and crafts vendors, games, free inflatables, and fireworks. *Admission is free.*



The **27TH ANNUAL SHADOW VALLEY GOSPEL MUSIC FESTIVAL** will be held July 7-9. A who's who of gospel music fills the weekend. The Kingsman, Gold City, the Chuck Wagon Gang, the Inspirations, Bradley Walker, the Blackwood Brothers, and more will perform. The event is held rain or shine, and camping is available.

For more information, see shadowvalley-productions.com or follow the festival's Facebook page. Shadow Valley is located at 54 Warden Road (off Highway 231-N), Fayetteville.



SEWANEE will celebrate July 3 and July 4 with their Hot Diggity All-American Dogs festival on University Ave.

For full details, visit sewanee4thofjuly.org.



MANCHESTER will celebrate from 7-9 p.m. with fireworks, food trucks, fun, free admission, and musical entertainment by The Spazmatics. The event is held at Rotary Park on July 4 and is hosted by the Manchester Parks and Recreation. Bring a blanket or lawn chairs.

See Manchester Parks and Recreation on Facebook or cityofmanchestertn.com for more details.

In the **WINCHESTER** area, Twin Creeks Development will host the annual Fourth of July fireworks show on Saturday, July 2, from 8:49-10 p.m. Winchester City Park is noted as an excellent viewing point. See winchester-tn.com for complete details.

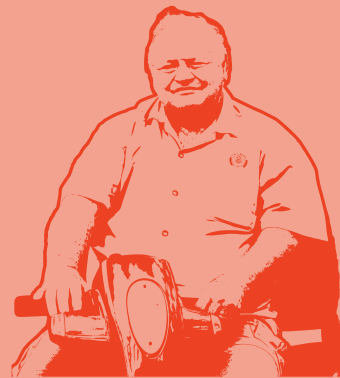


The 2022 TULLAHOMA REGIONAL INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

will be on July 3 at Frazier McEwen Park/Grider Stadium from 3-10 p.m. Vinyl Radio will perform from 5-7 p.m., followed by Six Wire from 7:30-9 p.m.. Fireworks from 9-9:20 p.m., and Six Wire will wrap up the event through 10 p.m.



FAYETTEVILLE will celebrate with fireworks on June 25 at Don Davidson Park. Gates open at 6 p.m. *More information can be found on the City of Fayetteville TN Parks & Recreation page on Facebook.* **GN**



Franklin County is full of hometown heroes like David Click and Ray Cobb. You may not know it, but you cross paths with them every day.

Good News Magazine thanks you for making Franklin County a better place.

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FRANKLIN COUNTY

Good News

MAY 2022

Prevention Coalition educates the next generation



Saving lives on land and in the water

Selfless

shining a light on Franklin County's best
Meet Emily Ezell, Kathy Pack, & Kelly May

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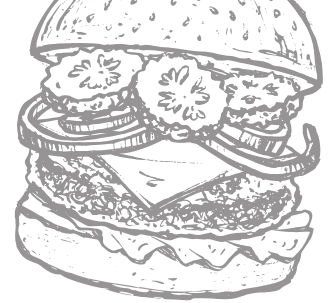


ON THE GRILL: COOKING UP THE GOOD STUFF

Fresh and flavorful meals
to kickstart the summer!

By Julia Eads

H MMM AAAHH. It smells like the weekend. Those grilled pineapple burgers will be lip-smacking, mouth-watering, and juicy down to the last bite. However, what lies on the grill is much more than your family's next meal. The instant you start up the grill, and that sweet nostalgic smell begins to drift through the air, you start doing much more than simple food preparation. When that grill cranked on, you, my friend, switched into the entertainment and hospitality industry as you just began serving up some of the sweetest memories. So, grillmasters, as you take position over your grills this summer, take a moment to look up above the smoke and steam. Take it all in because this is the good stuff. Ah, and the food shouldn't be too shabby either! Just follow the recipes.



GRILLED PINEAPPLE BURGERS

Submitted by Pam Adcock

Ingredients

- 2 lbs. lean ground beef
- 1 can (15 ¼ oz.) sliced pineapple, drained
- 1/4 c. packed brown sugar
- 3 T. Zesty Italian salad dressing
- 1/8 t. pepper
- 8 slices bacon
- 3/4 c. barbecue sauce
- 1/4 c. honey
- 1 T. lemon juice
- 1 T. salt

Directions:

In a large bowl, mix ground beef, salad dressing, and salt and pepper. Shape into 8 patties, 3 inches in diameter. Press a pineapple slice into each patty. Wrap each patty with bacon, using a wooden pick. In a small bowl, mix barbecue sauce, brown sugar, honey, and lemon juice. Place patties in a glass or plastic 13x9x2 dish. Pour barbecue mixture on patties. Cover and refrigerate for at least 2 hours. Grill patties, pineapple sides down, 4 inches from hot coals, for 12-15 minutes. Turn; brush with barbecue mixture. Grill for 10-15 minutes. Heat remaining barbecue mixture; serve with patties. Yield: 8 servings.

BEANS AND WIENERS WAIKIKI

Submitted by Debbie Dunn

Ingredients

- 1 can pineapple rings (20 oz.), drain and reserve juice
- 1/3 c. green pepper, coarsely chopped
- 1/4 c. onion, chopped
- 1 pkg. wieners, cut into chunks
- 2 T. margarine
- 2 T. vinegar
- 1 T. soy sauce
- 1/3 c. ketchup
- 1/3 c. brown sugar, finely packed
- 1 can pork & beans (31 oz.)
- 1 can Chow Mein® noodles

Directions:

Cut pineapple into chunks, reserving a few rings for garnish. In a large skillet, sauté the green pepper, onion, pineapple, and wieners with margarine. Simmer for 5 minutes. Add reserved pineapple juice, vinegar, soy sauce, ketchup and brown sugar, heating until bubbly. Pour pork and beans into a baking dish; add pineapple mixture. Stir gently to blend. Place reserved pineapple rings on top to garnish. Bake at 350° for 30 minutes. Serve with Chow Mein® noodles. Yield: 6 servings.



HOMEMADE VANILLA ICE CREAM

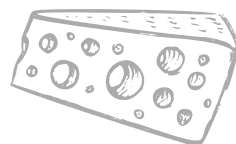
Submitted by Emma Hardin

Ingredients

- 3 T. flour
- 2 1/5 c. sugar
- 3/4 t. salt
- 6 c. milk
- 6 egg yolks
- 6 t. vanilla
- 6 c. cream

Directions

Mix flour, sugar and salt in a bowl. Stir mixture into milk in a saucepan, and cook over boiling water until slightly thickened. Cover and cook for 10 minutes more. Stir a little hot milk into eggs and then into milk. Cook 5 minutes more, until mixture coats the spoon. Chill. Add vanilla and cream. Freeze in ice cream freezer. Yield: 1 gallon.





ADOBE STOCK

FAITH

Freedom on fire

A country road paved with freedom leads to love.

By Julia Eads

WHEN I was a young buck, I decided if there was a rule, I was going to break it. There have been many distinct times in my life when I have felt suffocated by others' control, expectations, or rules. Unfortunately, my feisty nature would have me push away those limits every chance I got. If you listen closely, you can hear the sighs of my poor parents.

What about you? Have you ever found yourself frantic, craving and grasping for independence or freedom? Ripping out of the driveway only to look up and find yourself running on empty at dangerously high speeds along the highway to hell. Looking out the window to the right, is a road sign. It dashes by. It looked like it said, "Last exit before toll." ...If this sounds all too familiar, hang on. Ride shotgun with me for a few minutes.

As more fine lines have settled on my face, I've come to realize that freedom doesn't necessarily mean pushing the pedal to the floorboard. Going way too fast with little regard is not the equivalent of "living your best life." In my personal experience, living like that has equated more realistically to living a fast life.

The Oxford Languages dictionary defines freedom as, "the power or right to act, speak, or think as one wants without hindrance or restraint." Notice, that freedom is not defined as simply acting without restraint. Rather, freedom is defined as the power to choose, act, think, speak, etc.

Unfortunately, I am much more of a "live and learn" type of person, although I am working on learning and then living. Over the years, I have had my fair share of spinning out of control. Trainwreck or car wreck, whichever you want to call it— I have been in the ditch, on the side of the road, wrecked, feeling utterly hopeless. I have felt stuck in a cycle of making wrong turns over and over again as if my power steering went out. Fortunately, each time my wrong turn caused my world to catch on fire, I learned to do things differently. Or at the very least, I learned that I had the powerful freedom to do things differently.

Galatians 5:13 reads, "For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature.

Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love."

After many years of my freedom on fire, I discovered that most limitations were not put in place to keep me from fun, enjoyment, and living life to the fullest. Instead, I realized that laws, rules, and commands were put in place to protect me and keep me from harm. But more importantly, how to love better. In many ways, I found that scripture is a road map to truly living life to the fullest and not a long list of do's and don'ts. **GN**

TAKE A PIT STOP:

How are you using your freedom of choice?

Where are you headed?

*Or, are you on the side of the road
in need of a tow?*

*There is nothing wrong with
slowing down to rethink your drive.*

Here are a few destinations that might help you get started on your journey: (Romans 10:9-13, John 10:10, 1 John 1:9-10, 1 Corinthians 10:13)

OLDHAM

OLDHAM

WINCHESTER LOVES
HUNTER GIRL



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 Franklin County. It doesn’t matter if it’s a s’more at a bonfire, a lazy day with a book by the window, or exploring the town with the people you love most—there is something to do.

ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS SAY YES.

PHOTO BY BROOKE SNYDER





Family and friends
having a blast on
"NO LIMIT"

FESTIVAL SEASON HAS BEGUN

Annual High on the Hog kicks off summer festivals.

By Kali Bates // Photography by Brooke Snyder

THE ANNUAL High on the Hog Festival welcomed the summer festival season. For the past 35 years the festival has been welcoming locals and visitors alike with seven days worth of events that all do one important thing: raise money for local charities in Franklin County.

This year the event included a backyard barbecue challenge, carnival, steak cook-off, 5K run, cruise-in, poker run, and live music.

According to event organizer and long-time member of the Franklin County Kiwanis Club, Brenda Long, the main purpose of the event is to raise money for local charities.

“The event raises money for local charities throughout Franklin County,” she explained. “The carnival is pretty much where we make our money. The rest of the events are there to help bring people out to the park. Everything we do though has the purpose, as far as fundraising and spending money within the county.”



Long added that new to the festival this year was the craft show. She and the club were excited to offer it to festival goers and hope that it will be an even bigger success in 2023.

“We knew that it would start out small. But we hope over the years it will grow,” she said.

Now, after over two decades with the event, Long said she was glad to be able to welcome it back for another year.

“I’ve been with the event for 22 years,” she said. “The Kiwanis club took over the event in 2003. All of it coming together is kind of a miracle, quite honestly. After COVID, we had a 2-year lull, and we sort of had to go dormant. But last year we had a new event with the steak cook-off. The Steak Cook-Off Association came in and we had that along with the carnival.”

She also added that the festival is a labor of love for her and her fellow club members.

“I call her my partner in crime. Jeannie Bates and I have worked together on it for years and years,” she said. “We started out helping our husbands cook. Then we got this bright idea

that we didn’t want to do that because we were doing a lot of the work. We then decided that we would go into the judging classes. Then the other organization that had the event didn’t have a lot of volunteers, and they gave it to us because we were the only ones who knew anything about barbecue. And over the years Jeannie and I have just sort of drug other members in, teaching them and trying to keep for the community.”

While the festival continues to grow, Long invites members of the community to come out and volunteer. She and her fellow club members hope to see the event carry on for years to come and continue to raise funds for those in need in Franklin County. **GN**



For more information on the event or how to volunteer, visit online at highonthehogfestival.com.

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Annual chamber mixer at the lake kicks off

Photography by Brooke Snyder

The first of the season's "5 O'Dock Somewhere" chamber mixer was May 19, at the Hard Dock Cafe at Tims Ford Marina. The evening of networking was sponsored by Good News magazines.





FIRST PLACE:
WESTERN SIRLOIN
STEAKHOUSE

SECOND PLACE:
THE MICHAEL HALL TEAM



Chamber Bear Trace Golf Classic

Photos contributed by Franklin County Chamber of Commerce

The 23rd Annual Bear Trace Golf Classic was held May 2, at the Bear Trace Golf Course at Tims Ford State Park. The event is a yearly fundraiser for the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce.

THE WINNERS:

1st Place:
Western Sirloin Steakhouse

2nd Place:
The Michael Hall Team

Putting Contest:
Chris Ogle along with their
staggered payout winners!



PUTTING CONTEST:
CHRIS OGLE

COMMUNITY EVENTS

CONTINUED

Tea Party for Art Technically

Photos contributed by the Miss Franklin County Facebook page.

On May 7, Miss Franklin County hosted the Mad Hatter Tea Party fundraiser for Art Technically in Franklin County. According to the Miss Franklin County Facebook page, the event raised \$500 for STEM and Arts Education.





HunterGirl Music comes home

Photography by Brooke Snyder

Fans gathered in Winchester for HunterGirl's homecoming celebration as an American Idol top three finalist. She was given a key to the city, a mural, and a parade, and the day concluded with an evening concert at Twin Creeks Marina and Resort.





EVENTS CALENDAR

JULY 2022

JUNE 18

12:00 pm An Evening with The Oak Ridge Boys

Franklin County High School,
833 Bypass Road, Winchester

The four-part harmonies and upbeat songs of The Oak Ridge Boys have spawned dozens of country hits and a number one pop smash, earned them Grammy, Dove, CMA, and ACM awards, and garnered a host of other industry and fan accolades. Every time they step before an audience, the Oak Ridge Boys bring four decades of charted singles, and 50 years of tradition, to a stage show widely acknowledged as among the most exciting anywhere. Each remains as enthusiastic about the process as they have ever been.

JUNE 20

9:00 am Ukulele Camp

June 20-24
Enrichment Center
106 North High St., Winchester
(931) 967-7937

A wonderful opportunity to learn the ukulele, notation, and sight reading. Have fun in a group setting, learn a little rock and roll, jazz, or folk music, and jam with a fun-filled instructor while learning a skill that can go with you through life.

9:00 am Spirit of America Youth Boating Camp

June 20-24
Tims Ford State Park
570 Tims Ford Dr., Winchester

Students will learn water safety, receive a TN boating license, and experience three days of on water training with multiple types of boats including but not

limited to canoes, kayaks, paddleboards, houseboats, airboats, outboard boats, law enforcement boats, and sail boats.

Applications are required and will be accessible by visiting any day between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. or by calling the park office at (931) 968-3536.

Space is limited but this is not a first come first serve course. Applications will be graded, and students chosen accordingly. Course fee is \$75 for those accepted.

12:00 pm Health Council & Prevention Coalition Meeting

Campora Family
Resource Center,
900 S Sheperd St, Winchester

Join us for Franklin County
Prevention Coalition & Health
Council Meeting!

Meeting information can be
found at fcpcn.org

JUNE 24

6:00 pm I am "Fed UP! with Fentanyl" Community Meeting

Franklin County High School
833 Bypass Rd., Winchester

Start a conversation about
drug use and prevention in
our community.

- Speakers include:
- Law enforcement
 - Emergency medical services
 - Department of health
 - Regional overdose prevention specialists providing onsite Naloxone training
 - People who have been personally affected by opioid abuse

JUNE 25

8:00 am Overnight Canoe Trip
Tims Ford State Park
570 Tims Ford Dr., Winchester

Meet at Lakeview Marina

This will be an overnight canoe trip on Tims Ford Lake. We will depart from Lakeview Marina and paddle to Goose Island where we will camp for the night then paddle the next day to Devil's Step Boat Ramp where the trip will end. Paddling distance will be approximately 5 miles each day. Boats, lifejackets, paddles and campsites are included in the cost, but meals are not provided. This will be open-water paddling with little to no experience required. A great trip to take to get experience if you want to start canoe camping or to just have a great experience with a family member or friend. Age limit is 13. For any questions please contact Ranger Matzkiw by phone at (931) 279-4893, or by email at mark.matzkiw@tn.gov

JUNE 26

8:00 am Camp Rain Kids Camp Ages 6-8
June 26-28
Camp Rain
626 Bennett Cemetery Rd.,
Decherd

Register at CampRain.com.
Email: campRain626@gmail.com

JULY 9

4:00 pm Overnight Backpacking Trip
July 9-10
Tims Ford State Park,
570 Tims Ford Dr., Winchester

We will be backpacking to one of the newest lakeside backcountry campsites at Tims Ford State Park! We will meet at noon at the Tims Ford State Park Visitors Center. We will then hike approximately 2 miles on the Old Spann House Trail to the Old Spann House backcountry campsite where we will camp for the night. The next morning, we will return to the visitor's center by the

same trail.

Dinner will be provided but guests will be responsible for any other meals/snacks. If you have any food allergies, etc. please contact the park office.

All levels of experience welcome! This is a great opportunity for beginner backpackers! For any questions, contact Ranger Kelsey by phone at (931) 200-7265, or by email at kelsey.garcia@tn.gov

JULY 12

4:00 pm Lego Club
Franklin County
Public Library
105 S. Porter St., Winchester

JULY 15

9:00 am Forged at the Ford
July 15-17
Tims Ford State Park
570 Tims Ford Dr., Winchester

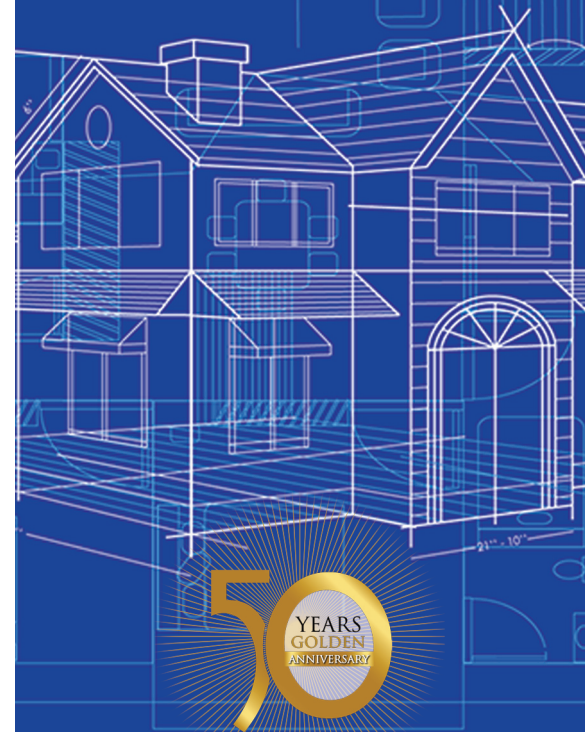
This three-day survival school will teach you all the necessary skills to survive a planned or unplanned outdoor experience. This course takes place on one of the many islands within Tims Ford Lake to which participants will be shuttled by boat. The course is taught by several Tennessee State Park Rangers who are experts in their respective fields. This school will teach shelter construction from natural materials, wild edibles, friction fire, attainment and preparation of wild game, water purification and more. Participants are required to bring a certain amount of required gear, and meals will be provided by participants excluding one wild game dinner. Age limit is 15. For further information please contact Ranger Matzkiw by phone at (931) 279-4893, or by email at mark.matzkiw@tn.gov

For more events visit:

[www.goodnewsmags.com/
franklin-county-events](http://www.goodnewsmags.com/franklin-county-events)

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