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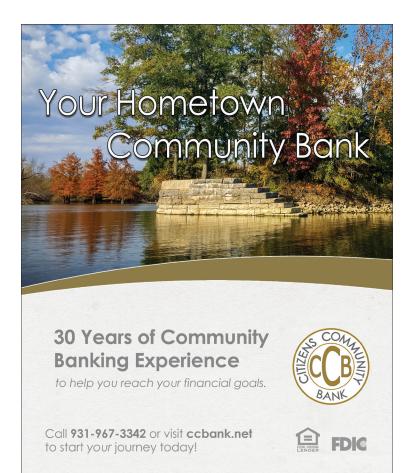


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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Your Local Summer Guide

You don't have to travel far to have a vacation.

T HE AIR is thick and heavy, like a woolen blanket draped over the landscape. The sun blazes down, casting a golden glow over the world below. The grass is tall and green, swaying in the breeze like waves on an ocean. Cicadas sing a chorus in the trees; their buzzing filling the air like a symphony. The scent of freshly cut grass mixes with the aroma of sizzling barbecue, filling the senses with warmth. Children run through the sprinklers, shrieking with joy as the cool water splashes over their faces.

As summer approaches, many of us are starting to plan vacations, booking flights and hotels to far-off destinations. But what if I told you that the best summer adventures are right in

your own backyard? This issue of Good News is all about the ultimate staycation, filled with local places to explore, adventure, and more without having to travel far.

The best part about a staycation is that it allows you to truly immerse yourself in your community. You'll have the chance to discover new things about your hometown and create memories that will last a lifetime. Whether you're looking for a day trip or a weekend getaway, there's something for everyone in this issue.

So, pack your bags (or don't) and get ready to embark on the ultimate staycation. The adventures await, and they're closer than you think. **GN** From our readers



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Thank you for reading Good News!

"I am new to the area and received my first magazine this past week. I just want to say I LOVED IT! I literally read it from front cover to the last page. I learned a lot about this community that I'm happy to now call home! Thank you for your positive, feel good magazine." — Liz Huber, Good News reader

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Good News

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CHAPTER 1 OF 3

This section of the magazine covers local positive news you may have missed.

- The Artisan Depot's 'something for children'
- Rangers and others provide Tims Ford's sunset boat tours
- 22 Local program sends seniors back to school

Submit a positive story on our website:



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PHOTOGRAPHY BY ASHLEIGH NEWNES

✓ Ranger Dalton Smith



The Artisan Depot's 'something for children'

Coordinator Pippa Browne discusses upcoming events at the Artisan Depot.

By Jeriah Brumfield // Photos provided by Pat Richards

ART INVITES us into a space of creativity, purpose, self-expression, and fulfillment. Step into a world of originality, wonder, and diversity at the Franklin County Arts Guild's exhibition space, the Artisan Depot. This haven for budding artists and experienced artisans is where the community can showcase and sell their masterpieces, attend workshops, and even pursue art education scholarships. It caters to various unique art expressions and consists of artists who use their unique cultural perspectives to create original art pieces.

The Franklin County Arts Guild's gallery is not just for adults — children are also welcome and celebrated. This month, through July 30, the Artisan Depot is holding a special art show designed for kids, featuring art that entertains and inspires children to explore their creativity.

The Franklin County Arts Guild coordinator, Pippa Browne, said, "This show's all about the children. When summer comes along, I feel like there needs to be a lot more of that kind of focus. So this particular show really is open to any interpretation with emphasis on children, whether it be something that an artist would feel will entertain children or illustrative elements that would be suitable for children."



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Browne said art is an area where young people can process the things happening in their lives. The artist said she believes that introducing the youth to art at a young age will help them to grow and develop support for their mental health. It is a fundamental part of child development that should be explored.

As an educator and writer, Browne has seen firsthand the significant impact self-expression through art has on young children. Browne has written children's books and seen how important art exposure is for children dealing with difficulties.

"Kind of like art therapy, it doesn't have to be organized; It's just having the opportunity to go into an internal space and moving it into an external expression that does not necessarily have to be known by everybody, but it's just seen."

Originally from Zimbabwe, in Southern Africa, Browne moved to the United States with her husband and Shelbyville native. After she came to America, she showcased her artwork at cooperative galleries.

The artist moved to Memphis after being involved with the Fly Arts Center Organization and the Bedford

County Arts Council in Shelbyville and exhibited her work at a cooperative gallery. Upon returning to Tennessee, she discovered the Artisan Depo in Franklin County, offering the cooperative gallery approach she was looking for.

To Browne, art is a means by which to process the world.

"I grew up with artists — a grandmother who did watercolor portraits and landscapes, and then my mother was an art teacher."

As a descendant whose ancestors were artists, Browne said she had grown up in a home with only original artwork from the past.

The Arts Guild is full of inspiring art and artists who use art to express who they are and how they see the world. Community members are encouraged to allow their creative juices to flow and step into the Artisan Depot, an imaginative world full of creativity, wonder, and diversity. **GN**

Visit http://www.franklincoarts.org/ for more information on how to get involved.



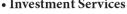
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▲ Ranger Shawn Settle

Rangers and others provide Tims Ford's sunset boat tours.

Sunset boat tours and Tims Ford State Park activities heat up for summer.

By Jeriah Brumfield // Ashleigh Newnes

THE DESIRE to connect with nature remains strong amidst a world dominated by technology. Visitors flock to Tims Ford State Park in search of a unique outdoor experience full of rich history and adventure. One of the park's dedicated rangers, Dalton Smith, makes it his life's work to ensure every visitor leaves with unforgettable memories.

Smith's passion for the park shines through as the boat tour guide when visitors step onboard. The tour weaves through various lake sections full speed ahead, with Pennington Cave as the ultimate destination. Smith shares the park's intriguing history, the properties surrounding it, and the wildlife inhabiting it, captivating the audience with his depth of knowledge. Visitors leave the tour filled with a sense of awe and unique information.

Smith said, "It's a super cool event and experience. And I think everybody that goes on it feels like they've been fulfilled by going on one of the tours as well."

A visit to Tims Ford State Park is more than just experiencing the park; It's about connecting with the land and its history. Boat tours provide the perfect platform to share in the memories of those who lived around the park before it became the state park it is today.

"It's still young enough that we still have people that visit, occasionally, that remember it before the lake was here and lived in areas that are now underwater and can tell you firsthand how that experience was and how it felt."









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Beyond the boat tours, the park offers endless experiences, be it kayaking or camping. With three campgrounds and six islands, visitors can create their own adventure. Smith said the park is building a new trail, offering visitors a chance to bank fish from the trail, similar to a fisherman's trail.

Smith's love for the park comes as no surprise. Originally from Maury County, Smith grew up going to Tims Ford Lake and said he knew the area well before becoming a park ranger.

He has conducted boat tours for three years, and his passion for boating safety drives him to educate visitors year-round, ensuring a safe experience. He teaches classes and summer camps in June and July, which are week-long youth boating camps.

"That's something I try to spend a lot of time on throughout the year is getting that info out to people and getting people to invest in their boating safety."

The park's newly functioning nature center is yet another haven for visitors to explore the lake's inhabitants, including turtles, salamanders, and fish, and learn about the area's rich history.

"There's a wealth of knowledge just in that one building."

Tims Ford State Park presents an unmatched opportunity to escape into nature, connect with history, and discover new wonders. Smith states, "It's just endless the number of things that somebody could come out and do." And who knows? Visitors may even leave with memories like those who lived around the park before its conversion. GN

For more information on all Tims Ford State Park offers, visit https://tnstateparks.com/parks/tims-ford.

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▲ Della Jolly, Peggy Dollar, and Mary Arnold

Local program sends seniors back to school.

Foster grandparents find purpose and help shape lives.

By Tina Neeley // Photography by Brooke Snyder

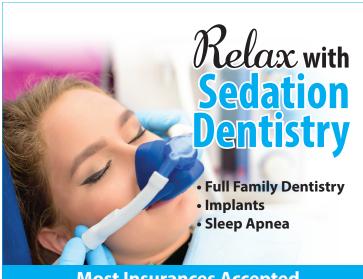
A H, RETIREMENT! We dream about it, save for it, and imagine how we'll fill our days. While many seniors and retirees find countless ways to spend their time, others discover extra time on their hands. Living costs continue to rise faster than retirement benefits, and low-income seniors are hit particularly hard.

Teachers never seem to have enough time or resources to meet all the demands placed on them and their students, and the pandemic left many students behind in reading. Not every student has a strong family support system to encourage and help to catch up in any areas where they struggle.

But there is one excellent resource that serves to fill the gap for seniors, teachers, and students. The South Central Human Resource Agency's (SCHRA) Foster Grandparent Program, funded through Ameri-Corps Seniors, is that bridge.

Jeana Mills, Foster Grandparent Program director, said Bedford, Franklin, Coffee, and Lincoln County headstarts, schools, and after-school programs are among the 13 counties covered in our area. Foster grandparents presently serve over 27 students in Lincoln and Franklin Counties. SCHRA is ready and able to connect students, seniors, headstarts, schools, and after-school programs in Bedford and Coffee Counties."

Mills said, "We currently serve 23 partnerships in our area, and my goal is to establish a partnership with Bedford and Coffee [Counties]. While headstart programs usually receive only one granny [grandparent], we can cover a larger area in our school systems."



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The volunteer program is open to all seniors. Travel is reimbursed, and participating seniors are paid \$4 per hour. Volunteers must work at least five hours weekly and may choose to work up to 40 hours weekly.

The one-on-one sessions with students focus on reading, math, and building life skills. Teamwork and self-confidence grow as students benefit academically and form lasting connections with the foster grandparents long after the school year ends. The areas where volunteers are presently assigned find the presence of the foster grandparents to be an essential part of student learning and something positive within the school or program's culture.

Mills explained the foster grandparents' requirements. "To qualify, they must be low income, over 55, and able to pass a background check. They receive 40 hours of training — 20 hours with us and 20 hours shadowing someone at the school," she said.

Volunteers choose the number of hours they want to work, and many choose additional hours once they've experienced the program.

"I always warn the volunteers, once you start working with these children, they will love you endlessly, and you



▲ Peggy Dollar and Kassie Ryan



▲ Memphis Snyder and Della Jolly

will love them the same. They will become like family, and when you're out for doctor's appointments, illness, or simply a personal day, you will be missed. So be ready to explain why you were out because they will ask," she said.

Mills continued, "It's just a win-win. The kids get extra help, the teachers get extra help, and senior citizens stay active and engaged in the community. Every morning, they have a purpose to get out of bed and push themselves to keep going. It's a really good program that works hand in hand between both generations." GN

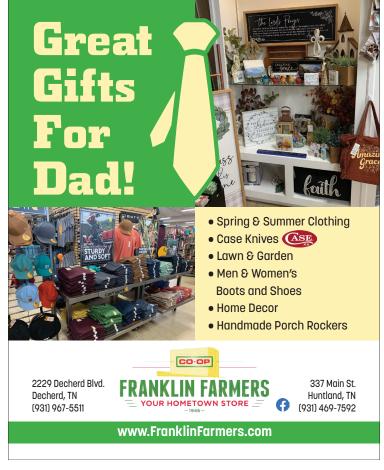
For information on becoming a foster grandparent or to connect your school with the program, contact Jeana Mills at South Central Human Resource Agency at (731) 514-5967.

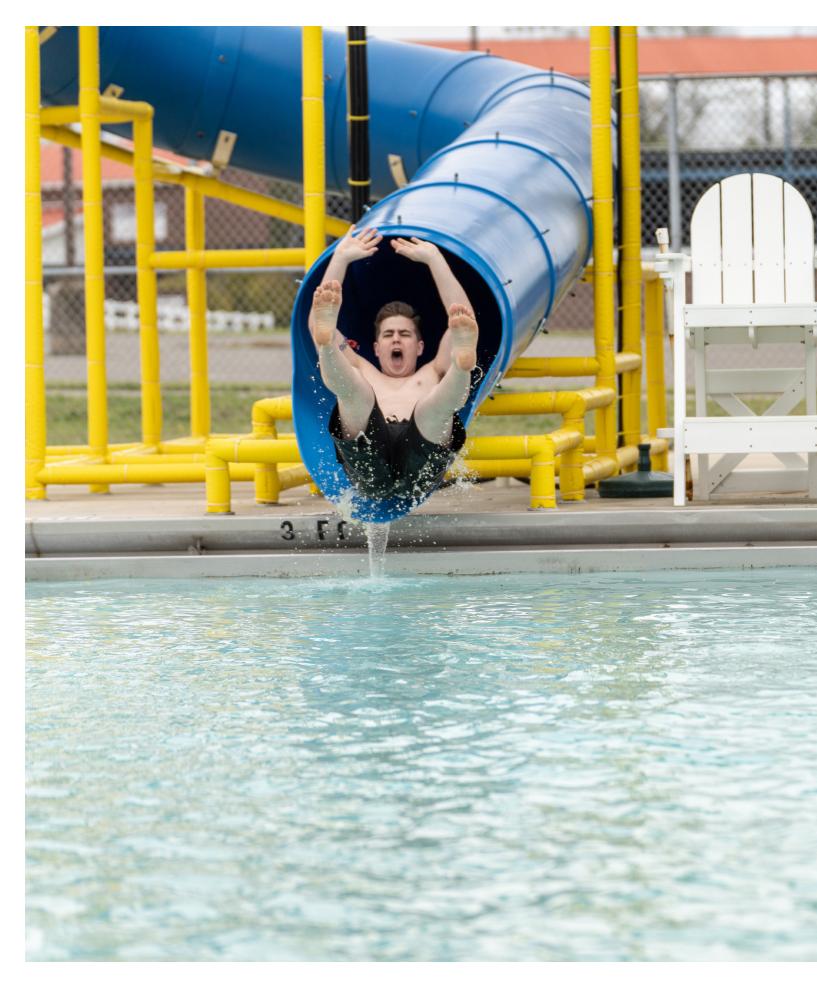














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Our stories are based on submissions from local people.
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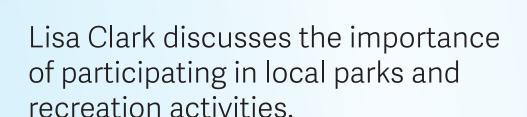


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ANAQUATION DIRECTOR'S PERSPECTIVE



By Jeriah Brumfield // Photography by Brooke Snyder

OU AND your family decide to get out and enjoy an excellent summer weekend camping, boating, and fishing at Winchester Parks and Recreation.

Upon entering the building, the skilled aquatics director, Lisa Clark, welcomes you with warmth.

Having spent more than a decade educating people on aquatic safety, Lisa has managed to maintain her enthusiasm and vigor throughout the years. She seamlessly integrates the fun and thrill of water activities with life-saving skills and knowledge.

Lisa is a strong advocate for swimming as a life skill. As a resident who understands the risks of water accidents, she emphasizes the importance of water safety for everyone, especially as thousands of children lose their lives to water accidents each year. This is why she believes that swimming should be included in school curriculums.

Besides her passion for aquatic safety, Lisa prides herself on teaching children and adults about water safety while helping them explore their love for nature and outdoor activities.

Beginning as a desk clerk, Lisa worked her way up to become the aquatics manager, overseeing all aquatic recreational activities in the department.

Her favorite part of the job is interacting with children and witnessing their growth throughout the swim program.

"Just hanging out with the kids, watching them grow, you get somebody that doesn't know how to swim, and you see the pride in themselves when they figure it out, and they can put bubbles in the water, and the simplest of things just makes a difference."

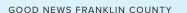
Winchester Parks and Recreation offers much more than just water activities, with various sports equipment available for rent, such as tennis, soccer, basketball, and volleyball.

They also rent sea pavilions for events and have a staging area for outdoor performances. The park is famous for hosting various events that attract visitors from all over the county, such as the High on the Hog cook-off and steak-off, Fourth of July fireworks, and fishing competitions.

In 2021, Lisa and her department organized a kids triathlon camp for ages 5 to 12, which has had tremendous success. Despite being outside her comfort zone, Lisa was inspired by her faith and the desire to help children improve their physical abilities.

She said, "You see a lot of kids out there just learning how to throw the disc in Disc Golf and just learning how to start, but they're going national with some players. So the whole City Park is exploding, and it all filters through this office."

The program has been so successful that people from all over the Middle Tennessee area are inquiring about the camp. Winchester Parks and Recreation's growth and success are evident through the enthusiasm of its visitors, especially the children who enjoy themselves while learning essential skills.





▲ Lisa Clark

"I don't care what age you are. You can't help but smile when you hear laughter outside. So that's why outdoor rec is important."

Clark spoke of the numerous benefits of working as an aquatics manager in such a beautiful area of Winchester.

She said, "I walk out my office door, and I can see mountains, and I can see water. I mean, that's pretty impressive."

She continued, "It's just for the pure joy and self-healing of yourself. You just need that mental break and to be able to see those types of things."

The Winchester Parks and Recreation's campgrounds offer a delightful retreat



You can't help but smile when you hear laughter outside.

- Lisa Clark

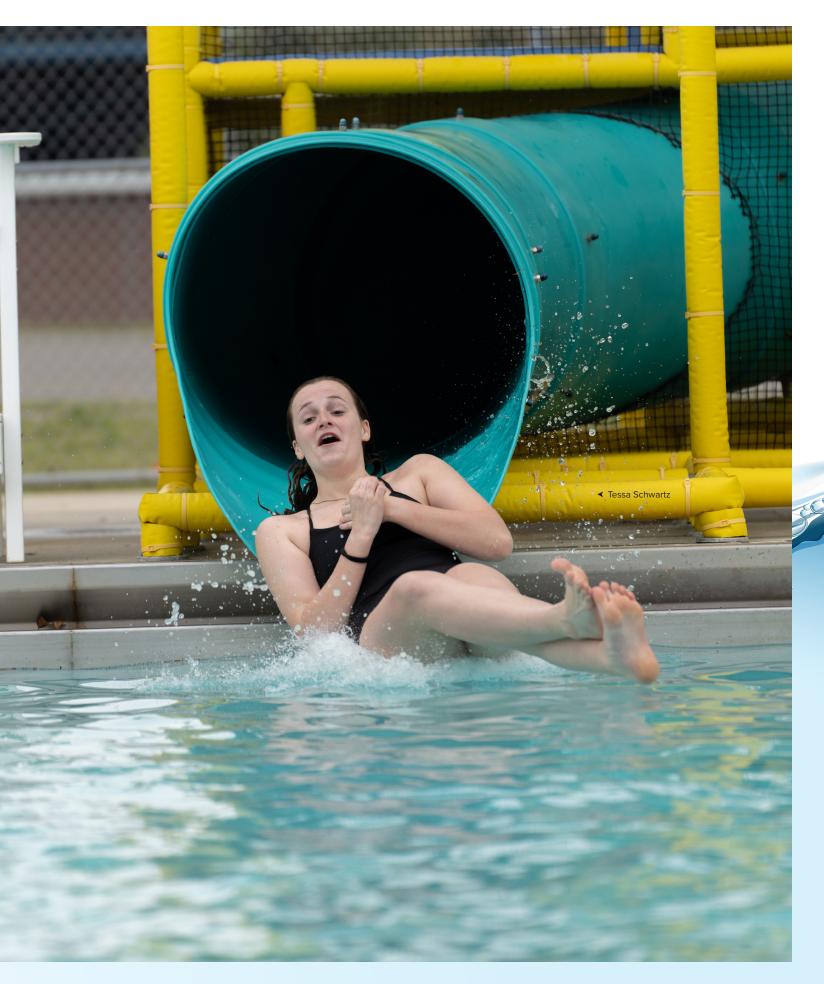
for families seeking fun and relaxation on the city's north side. Situated next to the serene lake on a sprawling parkland that spans 170 acres, visitors can indulge in Fourth of July fireworks displays and the breathtaking views of their surroundings.

According to Clark, the campgrounds are highly sought after and are usually 80% booked after April.

Clark said one of the park's biggest draws is its strategic location, conveniently located only a mile from the town square, two miles to Walmart and a grocery store, and across the lake from Twin Creeks, where live music events frequently take place. Adding to its appeal is Drafts and Watercrafts, a restaurant that's a stone's throw away from the grounds.

With their passion for outdoor recreation and a skilled aquatics team led by Lisa Clark, Winchester Parks and Recreation provides a fun and safe place for families to create unforgettable summer memories. **GN**







THE POWER OF MUSIC AND RHYTHMS OF UNITY

MUSICIAN ASHLEY BROOKS' JOURNEY TO INSPIRE AND UPLIFT HER COMMUNITY THROUGH THE POWER OF MUSIC.

BY JERIAH BRUMFIELD // PHOTOS PROVIDED BY HAYJAY PHOTOGRAPHY

N ARTIST with a smooth, soulful sound and angelic voice, Ashley Brooks is a singer, songwriter, and musician originally from Winchester who loves performing various genres of music. She uses her soulful and melodic voice to bridge social gaps and inspire communities to unite and enjoy one art form that connects us all — music.

She said, "Songwriting is an escape, and I enjoy writing from different narratives. It allows me to be creative and hopefully encourage others through my lyrics and tell a story."

Her songs are a fusion of jazz, soul, folk, country, pop, gospel, and contemporary Christian, and her lyrics speak to the struggles and triumphs of navigating life.

Besides her voice, the guitar is her primary instrument, and she can take a country song and craftily convert it into a smooth-flowing jazz ballad.

The musician has been singing and playing the guitar since she was young, inspired by Motown artists like Marvin Gaye and Nat King Cole and one musician near and dear to her heart, her brother, Zachary Brooks.



Ashley said, "He is extremely gifted and talented. We've worked a lot alongside each other since we were just kids making a bunch of racket outside. My brother has shaped my sound and inspired me as well."

The duo collaborated on their single, "Smooth Sailing," produced and released in 2020.

Ashley grew up singing in her church choir and was raised by two talented singers, John and Kimberly Brooks. She said growing up, watching them sing was integral in helping her discover her love and sound for music.

She said she always loved the sound of the guitar. While attending church, she enjoyed seeing guitarists visit the area and play during worship.

Walter Hamilton Sr. and his family play various instruments and are talented people who inspired Ashley early on.

Growing up in a small town was not always easy for the soul singer, especially being an African American woman with a unique sound. But her dedicated supporters have guided her every step of the way.

"This little niche village raised me and made me the person I am. This community that has brought me up still supports me to this day."

Ashley continues to pour her heart and soul into every performance, igniting a fire in the hearts of all who listen.

Aside from her family and friends, one person who encouraged her to pursue her passion in music is her former instructor, John Cook, of Tullahoma. Cook began teaching Ashley when she was 15, and his patience and encouragement during lessons helped propel her into a new world of music composition.

The Franklin County High School alumna graduated from Middle Tennessee State University in May 2020 with a Bachelor of Science. She majored in Recording Industry with a concentration in Music Business.

After interning at Sony Music Publishing in college, the company hired her full time to do administrative work in music publishing. Even though she no longer works there, she said she gleaned immense wisdom from her experience. "It helped me learn how interesting and instrumental the administrative side of the industry is."

Ashley has a way of putting her audience's souls at ease with her rhythmic sounds. Her fingers fly over the strings, and her voice soars with emotion. When she performs, the world disappears briefly, and all that exists is the music. The power of her music lifts the audience up and carries them away.

From playing at Opry Mills and the Well on the square in Winchester to performing at Urban Writers Round in Nashville, Ashley is truly a hero of her community and generation.

One song that holds special meaning for the guitarist and songwriter is her song "Take Me Back Home."

"Lyrically, it expresses how I feel about the village and community that helped raise me, and it speaks to, for me, the people back home in Winchester," she said.

Ashley feels the freest to create in a room by herself with a pen, paper, and her guitar. Reflecting upon her many life experiences helps her write her songs.

She hopes to encourage future minority musicians and musicians of all cultures to stay true to themselves, but her story is just beginning.

Ashley took the crown at the "Nashville Is Not Just Country Music" writers' round in April, beating out six other talented songwriters in a fierce competition that lasted only one night. In the final round, she was overjoyed to learn that the audience had chosen her as the victor with the most votes.

"I was very humbled and honored just to have the opportunity to share my original songs with others at the event. To win was like icing on a cake," she said.

Ashley's music continues to show its audience the power of music and the unifying force it could be. She symbolizes hope and inspiration; her graceful melodies bring joy and comfort to all who listen, profoundly expressing the power of music. **GN**



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We're passionate about discovering and sharing delicious recipes with our community. We absolutely love trying out new dishes and exploring exciting culinary creations, and we know that our readers do too! That's why we're inviting you to share your very own recipe with us. Whether it's a mouth-watering dessert, a hearty main course, or a refreshing drink, we can't wait to hear about it!

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he sky is a vast expanse of blue, broken only by the occasional cloud lazily driffing by. It seems to go on forever, stretching out over the fields and trees like a canvas waiting to be painted. The heat is oppressive, a tangible force that weighs down on the body and mind. But despite the discomfort, there is a sense of contentment in the air. It is a time of lazy afternoons spent on front porches, sipping sweet tea and watching the world go by.

Summer in the South is a season of contrasts. It is hot and humid, yet filled with the simple pleasures of life. It is a time of long days and warm nights, of fireflies dancing in the darkness and the sound of crickets singing in the distance. It is a time to slow down and appreciate the beauty of the world around us, to find joy in the simple things, and savor the sweetness of life.

Did you know people from all over the world come to travel to Tennessee? And not just to Nashville and Dollywood. Our hometowns excite people all over the world. Why couldn't it excite us, too? There are endless options to have a fun summer. And vacations can become staycations when we learn to appreciate what our home has to offer.

Good News invites you to explore your own backyard.







Beat the heat and have some



Area activities welcome families to make the most of summer.

By Kali Bradford // Photography by Brooke Snyder

INDING SOMETHING the whole family can do during the summer can be challenging. The beach is too crowded, and the amusement parks are too far away. And both can be astronomically expensive. You are looking to save gas and your sanity. Thankfully, many family-friendly activities are heating up in popularity for the summer months. Not only do they welcome the whole family to enjoy, but they won't break the bank, and they will also get everyone up and moving.

DISC GOLF

First up is Disc Golf. While the two words seem contradictory, the sport's growing popularity is anything but.

According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, Disc Golf is also known as Frisbee golf. In playing the game, players attempt to toss a plastic disc into each of a succession of basketlike receptacles stationed along a course, with the object being to reach each target in as few attempts as possible. It is similar to regular golf in that it has 18 holes and

is played primarily by the same rules. But instead of hitting a ball into a hole in the ground, in Disc Golf, Frisbees are thrown into metal disc-trapping baskets on stationary poles.

Locally, Disc Golf courses have popped up steadily, with plenty of spots to play a round in whatever county you might find yourself in. It's also a sport that welcomes all skill levels and almost all ages.

Winchester City Park is home to an impressive 18-hole course that spans the entirety of the park. The course features wide open spaces for long-distance throws and wooded areas requiring a more skilled hand to make the shot.

Local Disc Golf player Heather Brown said wooded courses are some of her favorites.

"I have sort of a noodle arm, so it's harder for me to throw farther," she said. "A wooded course is a little more challenging but allows you to use the trees to your advantage. My family and I enjoy playing the more heavily wooded courses."

Disc Golfers are welcome to bring their own discs or check them out at the Winchester Swimplex.







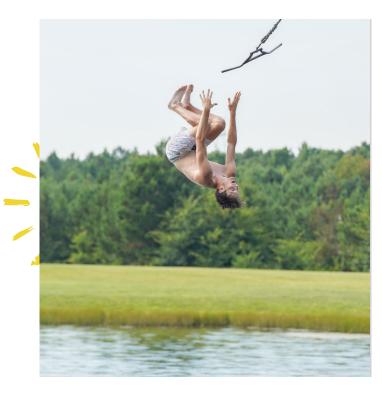
PICKLEBALL

Another summer activity that seems to have picked up its own cult following is Pickleball.

A paddle sport with combined elements of tennis, badminton, and Ping-Pong, Pickleball is played on a doubles badminton court. The net is similar to a tennis net but is 2 inches lower and played with a hard paddle, identical to Ping-Pong. It can be played in either singles or doubles matches.

While mostly played indoors, you can find Pickleball being played outdoors at either outdoor tennis courts or specially built Pickleball courts. Winchester City Park has tennis courts that serve as Pickleball courts for locals.

Local Pickleball player Felicia Daniels said the great thing about the sport is that it can be played on various courts.



"People don't realize how much is involved with Pickleball," she said. "You can play outdoors with an outdoor ball on a paved or coated concrete surface. It's a different game if you play indoors on a wooden floor, like in the gym."

The city park offers a variety of times for folks to play outdoor Pickleball.

Area senior citizens can enjoy year-round Pickleball indoors, thanks to the Franklin County Senior Center.



The center hosts the game from noon to 2 p.m. each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

SWIMMING

The local pool is on almost everyone's list for summertime activities. The smell of chlorine, pizza, and suntan lotion is not only hypnotic but intoxicating and draws all ages to come in and cool off from the summertime heat.

Winchester Swimplex offers water lovers of all ages an exciting, colorful place to cool off, complete





Winchester City Park Disc Golf Course 1850 Phillip Fulmer Pkwy. Winchester (931) 962-4204

PICKLEBALL

Winchester Tennis Courts 617 Old Estill Springs Rd. Winchester (931) 962-4204

Franklin County Senior Center 74 Clover Dr. Winchester (931) 967-9853

SWIMMING

Winchester Swimplex 251 Old Estill Springs Rd. Winchester (931) 962-4204

with tunneled water slides and features that young swimmers love. While having fun is the goal, you can also have fun while getting fit, thanks to the many water aerobics classes offered at the Swimplex. For early birds, a class is available from 6 to 7 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Those getting starting in the mid-morning can join in from 8:30 to 10 a.m. each Monday. Evening classes are held from 6 to 7 p.m., Monday through Thursday. For those who cannot attend weekday classes, a Saturday class is available from 10 to 11 a.m. Those interested are asked to contact the center to sign up. **GN**





Entertainment, Fireworks, and



Explore summer's invitation to escape and explore.

By Tina Neeley // Photography by Brooke Snyder and Ashleigh Newnes

UMMER'S NOT just for outdoors! Fellowship with friends and family while experiencing our area's best arts and entertainment, indoors and out. Don't forget the fireworks, but there's more than fireworks lighting up the skies; there's an explosion of things to do and places to go.

As summer's heat bears down, the footlights come up on local arts and entertainment. Escape into the air-conditioned theatre for a play or musical, where you'll be transported while supporting your local arts center. While there, consider exhibits and classes for all ages where you might discover a new hobby or untapped natural talent.

When it comes to art classes, don't forget area studios for a wide variety of things to do this summer. There's something for adults and children.

Sewanee Art Works welcomes summer with classes that will culminate in an exhibit.

Martha Keeble said, "Sewanee Art Works will be available this summer to host private art events & parties. Let us help you plan a creative way to entertain your family and friends. People







are also welcome to join one of our weekly group art classes or sign up for a private lesson. There is no previous art experience necessary for any of our offerings."

How about exploring an art exhibit? Sewanee Art Works can check that box for you as well.

"Our painting groups are having an exhibition at Stirling's Coffee House on The University of The South campus during July," said Keeble.

Escape the heat and humidity with a great book, whether under your favorite shade tree or in the most comfortable chair at home. Find a new favorite author or genre while your children make their selections for the library's summer reading program. You can borrow books using your library card online if you'd rather not leave the comfort of home to snag a current bestseller or an old classic you'd like to rediscover.

The Franklin County Library's summer reading program for children runs throughout June, and the adult program spans June and July. The more you read,

the more chances you have to win prizes. So why not set an excellent example for literacy while enjoying some friendly competition with your children?

Katherine Pack, with the library, has a tip for encouraging outdoor play and reading.

"Walk the Trail Tale at Winchester Park and read a book at the same time. Aside from the health benefits of playing in the sun, it's fun!" she said.

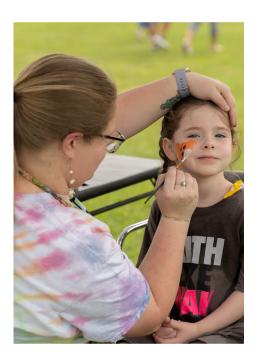
And don't forget long-standing community events and traditions. Summer standards include fairs, festivals, cook-offs, tractor pulls, and vacation Bible schools.

Fireworks will explode over Tims Ford Lake at Twin Creeks Marina on the Fourth of July. There are many ways to view the show. The City of Winchester website suggests you reserve a table at Drafts and Watercrafts at Twin Creeks Marina, watch from Winchester City Park, or by boat on Tims Ford Lake.

So why not try something new this year, along with your favorite annual summer events, projects, and programs?

For up-to-date information on these and many more, bookmark the Good News events calendar and check it often.

You never know what you'll discover in your own backyard! **GN**





ALL SUMMER BEGINNING MAY 24 Summer Reading Program

Summer Reading Program Franklin County Library franklincountylibrary.org

JUNE 4

Fourth of July Celebration Twin Creeks Marina winchester-tn.com

DATES TBA

Franklin County Arts Guild franklincoarts.org

Sewanee Art Works sewaneeartworks.com

Stained Glass Art Classes Manchester churchsstainedglass.com









Beats, tents, and

Get ready for a musical rendezvous this summer.

By Jeriah Brumfield // Photography by Brooke Snyder and Ashleigh Newnes

UMMER IS a season of warmth, joy, and fun. It is a time when people get together to enjoy the outdoors, dance to great music, and make unforgettable memories. Summer music festivals are a perfect way to experience all these things and more.

Whether you're a music lover or just looking for a fun way to spend a weekend, there's nothing quite like the experience of attending a festival in the heart of Tennessee.

The state is known for its rich musical heritage and diverse music scene, making it the perfect destination for music lovers





of all tastes. It's no surprise that the state is home to some of the best summer music events in the country. These events celebrate the diverse musical traditions of Tennessee and bring together music lovers from all over the world.

One of the most popular festivals in the state is Bonnaroo, which takes place in Manchester each year. The four-day festival draws thousands of music fans worldwide, with headliners like Kendrick Lamar and Elton Jon lighting up the stage. But Bonnaroo isn't just about the music — it's an all-encompassing experience featuring art installations, interactive experiences, and a vibrant food and drink scene.

Rebecca French, a volunteer with Bonnaroo, said, "Music is a universal language. And even if you speak a second language, are nonverbal, or can't hear, you can still feel the music."

In Tennessee, artists showcase their genre-defying music worldwide, with performances taking place outdoors, in churches, theaters, and other unique venues throughout the state.

John Kilkenny, Sewanee Summer Music Festival (SSMF) executive and artistic director at Sewanee Music Center, spoke of the value the SSMF brings to its audience.

Kilkenny said, "I want the program not to just feel like a four-week event that happens in the summer but a part of the year-round cultural life of the domain [and] also of the region."

He added, "I think it's one of the things that makes living in Sewanee or in the area so special," he said. "To be able to have this access to this incredible program, great artists, and special students



is really something that not many places have. But [for] places that do have it, it is really a landmark for them as an organization or region."

No matter which festival you choose, there's something truly magical about attending a summer music festival in Tennessee. The state's natural beauty and welcoming Southern hospitality create the perfect backdrop for unforgettable experiences, whether camping in the countryside or exploring the city's thriving music scene.

People from all over Tennessee can bask in the summer sun, eat tasty treats from local restaurants and food trucks, and enjoy the beautiful sound of music.

No matter your music genre, there is sure to be a summer music event that suits your style. So pack your bags, grab your friends, and prepare for an unforgettable experience. You won't want to miss these community-wide festivals. **GN**

JUNE 15-18

Bonnaroo Summer Music Festival Manchester

JUNE 22

The Sound Music Event Estill Springs

JUNE 17-JULY 16

Sewanee Summer Music Festival Sewanee







MUSIC SPEAKS
WHAT CANNOT
BE EXPRESSED,
SOOTHES THE
MIND AND GIVES IT
REST; HEALS THE
HEART AND MAKES
IT WHOLE, FLOWS
FROM HEAVEN TO
THE SOUL.

-Angela Monet

JULY 1-2

Big Mouth Bluegrass Festival The Caverns

JULY 14

Party with the Differents Friday Nights in the Park Sewanee





ANEW AROMA

Flavor the day with backyard grilling.

By Tina Neeley

HE BREEZE carries a hickory-smoked aroma from the nearby grill throughout the backyard as the family laughs and catches up in the early summer sunshine. It's Dad's day, but any excuse to get together is a welcomed one. Hungry appetites are settled, and hearts are filled with love and appreciation for the one that fixes the broken things and guides us through the rollercoaster of life.

It's a great occasion to try something new while gathering around traditional summer favorites. A new dessert may become an old favorite. A new recipe for grilling might send new flavors throughout nearby yards, causing neighbors to investigate the source. Or a new salad might be the day's perfect pairing.

While it's not what you eat, it's the company around you. Great food complements any special occasion. **GN**

Grilled Chipotle Ribs

Submitted by Essie Mills

2 sm. onions, peeled, divided 1 rack pork spareribs, 4 1/2 lbs. water for garnish 1/2 c. mesquite flavored marinade 1 t. chipotle chili powder 2 T. fesh cilantro, chopped

Quarter 1 onion and chop remaining onion. In a roasting pan over high heat, bring ribs, quartered onion, and enough water to cover ribs to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 30 minutes. In a small mixing bowl, combine chopped onion, marinade, chili powder, and cilantro. Heat grill to medium-high. Brush ribs with marinade mixture. Grill for 15 minutes or until thermometer reads 160°, turning once, brushing often.

Summer Salad

Submitted by Cindy Raybern

1 pkg. zesty garlic salad dressing mix 1T. red cooking wine 1 cucumber, sliced 1 tomato, sliced 1 red onion, sliced 1 green pepper, sliced vinegar and oil

Combine salad dressing by directions on package, but substitute 1T. red cooking wine for water. Add vinegar and oil. Pour over cucumber, tomato, onion, and green pepper, and serve.



Submit your recipes to be included in Good News Magazine and the Exchange Cookbook: www.southernaprons.com



"I got you, girl."

By Kali Bradford

I T IS the best of times; it is (sometimes) the worst of times. I have three children, ages 16, 12, and 5. It's not lost on me how fast they grow. Now, with a child who is nearing 18, it really does go by too fast. While I love being their mother at any of their ages, I would have to say I have truly enjoyed the younger years with them. The cuddling, kisses and hugs, and them constantly being attached to my hip. While that may seem crazy to some, I would much rather have my child needing a hug than give me attitude. I feel like most of you who are parents can commiserate.

My son is the youngest and as wild and sweet as they come. At the bold but also tender age of 5, he's ready to take on the world, but he also wants his mom and dad close to keep him safe while he tries to conquer.

A few months ago, I was tested on my theory of loving the younger years as he went through a significant milestone: losing his first tooth. To say it was dramatic would be an understatement. It all happened as we were walking out the door to head to preschool. While he was brave, there was also quite a bit of screaming and blood, along with me being told I was a "bad doctor." He was right on that one. I'm a writer, not a doctor, and I have never played one on television. The good news is that he lived to tell about it and received a whopping \$3 for his first tooth. A pretty good haul for a tooth if you ask me. My most significant tooth payday memory was a handful of dimes under my pillow, courtesy of my own tooth fairy — my grandfather.

On the other hand, I was left a little ragged and torn. Getting out the door with three kids is never easy. Add in the drama of losing a tooth during an already crazy

morning; I would be lying if I said that it didn't leave me a little depleted.

I know I'm preaching to the choir when I say that being a mom, or a parent, is hard work. Sleepless nights, long days, hurried moments, and the constant worry if we are doing it right. It all goes so fast; will our children know just how much we love them? They never tell you about the hard parts.

But there is a small voice in my head, and if I quiet the crazy for just a moment, I can hear it say, "I got you, girl."

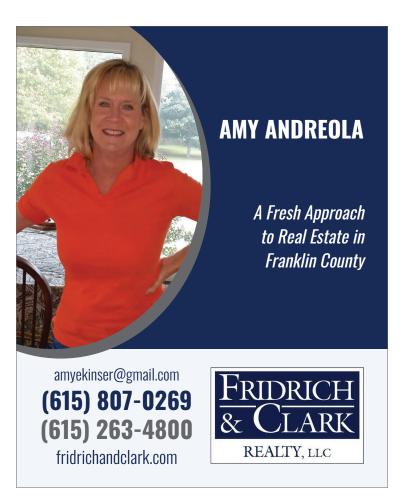
And if I stay quiet just a little longer, I can hear: "I got you. I've always had you, and I'll always have you. Be still and know that I am God."

And he's right, you know. He's got me. Through the crazy mornings, nights of worry, and tears of sadness that my babies are growing so fast, He's holding me and has already made the way. All I need to do is remember his promise. Psalms 16:8 is just one of the many verses in the bible that tell us this.

"I know that the Lord always has me. I will not be shaken, for he is right beside me."

That night as I snuggled with my little guy, he looked up at me and, with his beautiful toothless grin, told me he loved me. And I was reminded then that he knows I love him.

So I'm trying. In moments of chaos, uncertainty, and even fear, I remind myself that He is with me and loves me. Remember what we learned from Mister Rogers? He loves us just as we are. We love our children just as they are. We should also remember that the good Lord does the same for all his children, even in our worst moments. **GN**

















CHAPTER 3 OF 3

This section of the magazine covers local things to do.

- A day of fun, friends, & prizes
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PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY AMY HARING PHOTOGRAPHY

A DAY OF FUN, FRIENDS, & PRIZES

Franklin County Chamber of Commerce is gearing up for this year's annual Poker Run on the lake.

By Jeriah Brumfield // Photos submitted by Franklin County Chamber of Commerce

T IS that time of the year again when the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce and hundreds of community members prepare for another Poker Run event on Tims Ford Lake, scheduled for June 10. Registration for the event will commence at 9:30 a.m., and participants must turn in their cards by 2 p.m. The Poker Run will take place across several marinas, including Twin Creeks Marina, Holiday Landing Marina, Tims Ford Marina & Tims Ford Bass Club.

Visitors can participate by paying \$10 per hand and drawing cards from volunteers at each marina. Participants will receive their first card at the marina and the last two at the Bass Club.

The visitor with the best hand of the day wins \$500 in cash. There is also a prize for the worst hand. Giveaway door prizes are available, and visitors can purchase unlimited hands and start at any marina. For each hand purchased, visitors will receive one raffle ticket, and door prizes will be awarded after the last hand is turned in.

Visitors are invited to shop for merchandise and order food and drinks while visiting each marina. Visitors without boats are also welcome to join in for a day of fun, starting at the marina and driving around.

The chamber started the annual Poker Run in June 2020, right in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic. Business owners and companies were forced to shut down and cancel upcoming events, and the chamber was no exception.

Franklin County Chamber of Commerce's Kayla Doney said, "Between February through that year, we were trying to come up with something safe to bring the community together and also be a fundraiser for the chamber."

The chamber thought it would be a great idea to start a Poker Run in the summer for community members and visitors to enjoy a fun time on the lake. Doney said the Poker Run is a great team sport allowing people to hop on boats and enjoy lake recreation.

Tim's Ford Lake was a great choice as a venue because it allowed people to spread out and keep their distance during COVID and allowed them to get out and enjoy nature.

Doney said the chamber had received lots of positive feedback, and they would





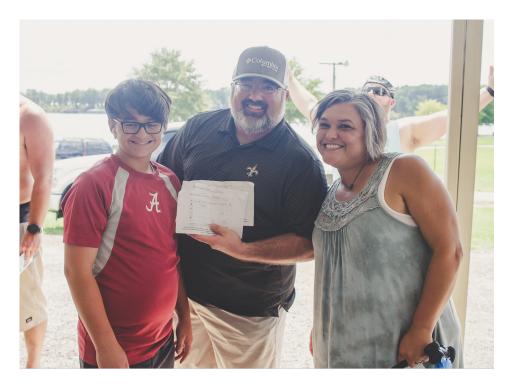


not have such successful events without the support of such a strong community.

"They really look forward to it every year. The volunteers have fun because they're outside of the marinas. They can have lunch on the lake while they're working. We bring in a lot of tourists to this event."

Doney also said many people from out of town travel to the lake to visit and play each year, and she looks forward to many more years of lake fun with the community and everyone who visits.

The annual Poker Run event is a great way to bring the community together for fun on the water. As we look forward to this year's event, let's appreciate the chamber's tireless efforts to unite the community and look forward to more summers of lake fun with family and friends. **GN**



COMMUNITY **EVENTS**

An Evening of Excellence Photos provided by Amy Haring Photography

Meredith Taylor

The Franklin County Chamber of Commerce held its Spring Soiree, marking its 73rd annual membership and awards banquet and the chamber's 75th anniversary. The event celebrated members for their continuous support of the chamber. Awards were also distributed for large business of the year, small business of the year, young professional of the year, and citizen of the year.





Kirsten Johnson

Lindsey Ladd and Kim Mason

Sonya McShan and Debra West











Get a good look



We wish we could publish all the photos we have, but we have too many! Browse our online gallery for free or purchase photos to be mailed to your home. All proceeds from photos go to local nonprofits.

EVENTS CALENDAR

May 13

10:00 am Franklin Co. Kiwanis High On The Hog -**Steak Cook-Off**

Winchester City Park 1561 Phillip Fulmer Pkwy.

Franklin Co. Kiwanis High On The Hog kicks off with cruise in, craft fair, vendors, and more.

May 17

8:00 am Franklin Co. Kiwanis **High On The Hog Family Carnival**

> Winchester City Park 1561 Phillip Fulmer Pkwy.

10:00 am Weekly Storytime

Franklin County Library 105 S. Porter St., Winchester

Join us weekly for storytime!

May 20

6:00 pm The Thundies

Sports Awards

First Baptist Church Manchester 1006 Hillsboro Blvd.. Manchester

Celebrating the athletes of Coffee County at the second annual Thundies Sports Awards!

May 21

ALL DAY National Day of Prayer for VBS

This is a statewide emphasis, encouraging churches to pray for VBS and Backyard Kids Clubs.

Good News





May 30

4:00 pm Franklin County Library STREAM

Franklin County Library 105 S. Porter St., Winchester

Join us to have fun with science, technology, reading, engineering, arts, and math (Stream)!

June 2

5:00 pm Good Friends Music Fest

Rotary Park Amphitheater 557 N. Woodland St., Manchester

Sixth annual, two days of fun featuring 11 musical acts, multiple food trucks, bouncy houses, arts and crafts vendors, beer sales, and more! This is a free event

June 9

5:30 pm EMS Night Out

Franklin County Annex Building 851 Dinah Shore Blvd., Winchester

LIFE FORCE Air Medical will be partnering with A&E Emergency Services to host an EMS Night Out. The three-hour course will cover basic and advanced airway management with a skills lab to follow the lecture. The lecture will be about 11/2 hours and then the skills portion will be about 11/2 hours.

For more events and to submit an event visit:

www.GoodNewsMags.com/events or call (800) 247-7318







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