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exchange

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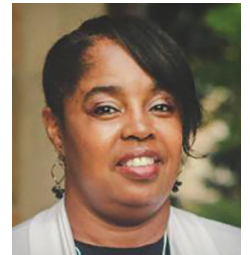
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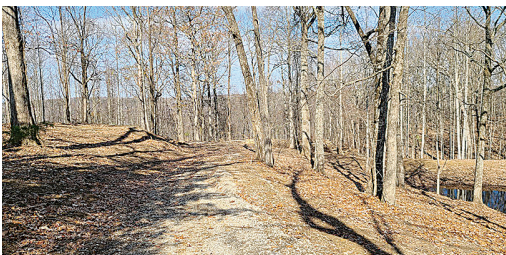
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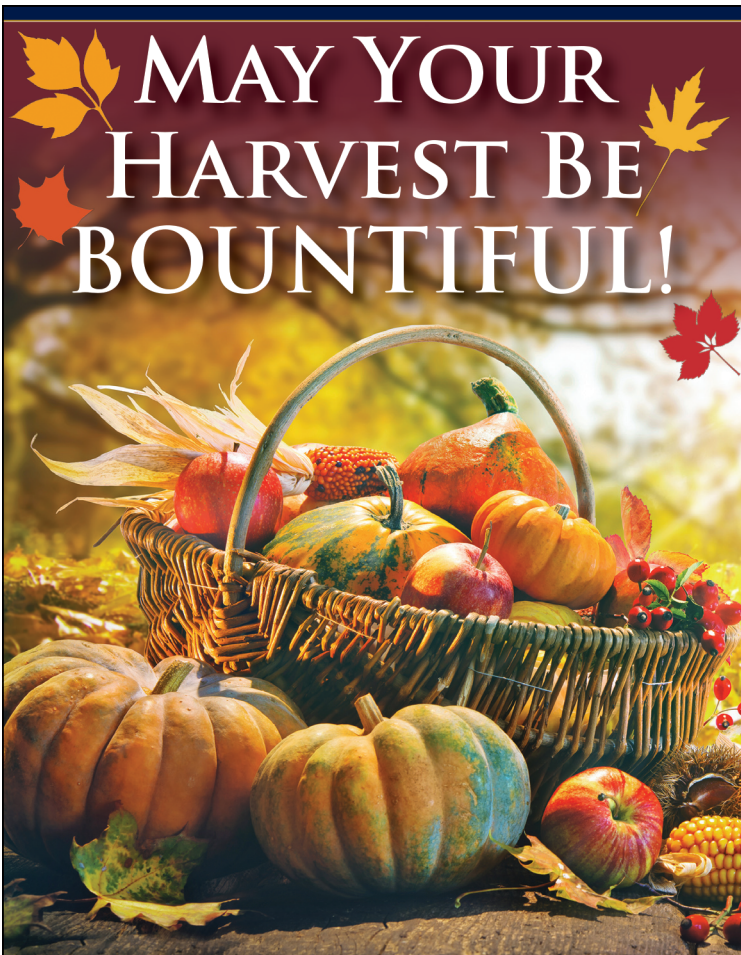


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looked down on his planned  
paradise and said, “I need  
a caretaker.”  
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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

## A Breath of Fresh Air

Autumn reminds us that every end is a new beginning

NOTHING EXCITES me more than the idea of autumn. The trees are beautiful and never fail to take your breath away and then give it back to you. The perfect Saturday is a cool breeze coming in from the open window, classic slashers like John Carpenter’s Halloween playing on the TV, and a pumpkin-scented candle dancing shadows to the corners of the room. Every autumn brings families together as the holidays sneak up on us once again. While we may jump into fun at local farm attractions and get lost in corn mazes, the season brings much more than hay rides and jump scares. It’s a time of year when we’re allowed to take a breath. The break-neck speed of summer is finally coming to an end. Now’s the time to relax with an iced coffee and nostalgia.

As the vibrant colors of autumn begin to paint the world around us, we find ourselves immersed in a season of both beauty and togetherness. The golden hues of falling leaves and the warm embrace of cozy sweaters evoke a sense of nostalgia and comfort that warms the soul. Just as the trees shed their leaves, we, too, shed the worries of yes-

terday, basking in the promise that each new day brings.

The crisp air seems to carry with it a sense of unity, reminding us of the importance of coming together, of finding solace in one another’s company. Whether it’s around a dinner table or a crackling bonfire, these moments of connection remind us of the power of community and the joy that flourishes when we share our lives with those we hold dear.

Each step we take in the crunching leaves serves as a reminder that even in the midst of change, there is an opportunity for renewal and growth. The autumn harvest is a testament to the cycle of life, to the assurance that every ending is merely the start of a new beginning.

Cherish the moments of togetherness that warm our hearts, and let us embrace the hope that blossoms with each passing day. As the world around us transforms, may we, too, find the courage to shed what no longer serves us and make space for the beautiful possibilities that lie ahead.

This issue of Good News focuses on the autumn harvest — when our communities harvest not just crops... but love, positivity, and Good News. **GN**

  
**Wesley Bryant,**  
MANAGING EDITOR

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publishing  
partner



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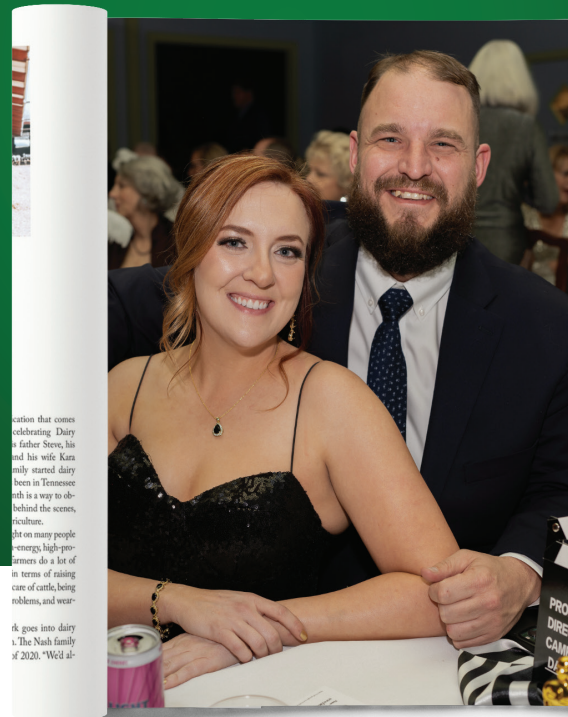
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CHAPTER 1 OF 3

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

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- 16** Dechard Tackles Water and Wastewater Problems Head-On
- 18** Kids Triathlon Held at Winchester Swimplex
- 20** St. Andrew's-Sewanee Students Conduct Field Research in Yellowstone National Park

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Photography by Brooke Snyder

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## Refreshing Lemonade Stand Serves Double Purpose for Foster Care Fundraising

Visitors and staff at Franklin County Courthouse enjoyed a refreshing lemonade stand that served a dual purpose: to raise funds for foster care children and cool off from the summer heat. This annual Isaiah 117 House tradition has blessed families since 2017. The initiative aims to continue supporting children in need. **GN**

## Estill Springs Celebrates 75 Years with Spectacular Family Fun Day

Estill Springs marked its 75th anniversary with a day of family fun. Events included an open-house reception, historical displays, an open house at the Baptist Church, a parade to the city park, a time capsule opening, food trucks, craft vendors, music, games, and a fireworks display to conclude the festivities. **GN**

## Estill Springs' Remarkable 75-Year Transformation

In the past 75 years, Estill Springs has thrived. Its population grew from 305 in 1948 to around 2,200 in 2023. The fire department began with volunteers and trailers, but after fire hydrants were installed in 1951, they acquired their first fire truck. The City Council shifted from a barbershop to a city-owned board room. The city's streets transformed from dirt to a modern four-lane highway with a center turn lane, signifying continuous development. **GN**





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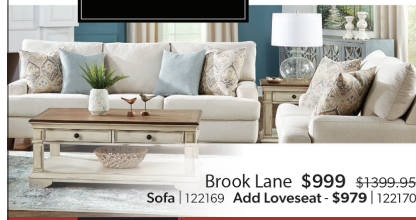
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## Dechard Tackles Water and Wastewater Problems Head-On

Dechard has recently made significant progress in addressing the water and wastewater issues it has been facing. To this end, the city council has given the green light to a specialized company to take over the management duties with a contract worth \$1.742 million. GN

## Mountain Market for Arts & Crafts Draws Crowds to Hannah Pickett Park in Monteagle

The Mountain Market for Arts & Crafts took place on July 29 and 30 at Hannah Pickett Park in Monteagle. The free event featured over 150 artisans and crafters, a fire truck display by the Monteagle Fire Department, and a variety of food options. GN



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## Kids Triathlon Held at Winchester Swimplex

Winchester Swimplex's successful kids triathlon camp concluded with a mini race featuring varying swim lengths (25-150 yards), a 1.6-mile bike ride, and a 0.5-mile or 1-mile run. Participants learned about the three sports, set goals, and promoted a healthy lifestyle while having fun. Appreciation to all mentors, supporters, and participants. **GN**



## Community Engagement Takes Center Stage in Franklin County Education

The Franklin County School Board OKs community engagement initiatives such as open house, town hall meetings, and highlighting schools & businesses. Dress code bans ripped clothing above mid-thigh length and personal communication devices in class. Policy changes include six weeks of paid leave and locked exterior doors. **GN**

## Winchester Council Takes Action: Mobile-Vendor Ordinance Passes with Defined Fees and Locations

On July 11, the Winchester City Council approved a mobile-vendor ordinance that specifies fees and locations for business operations after clarifying the affected parties and eliminating confusion over the matter. Every year, mobile food vendors, including food trucks, trailers, and tents operating in Winchester must obtain a business license costing \$300. This license grants them permission to sell their products within the city. **GN**





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## St. Andrew's-Sewanee Students Conduct Field Research in Yellowstone National Park

In early June, 13 St. Andrew's-Sewanee students conducted a field science research program in Yellowstone National Park, collecting vital data for the Yellowstone bison team. Their work enhances understanding of the bison's impact on the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, providing a captivating educational experience. **GN**

## Winchester Agent Receives MADD Underage Enforcement Award

Special Agent Curtis Francis from Winchester received the 2021 Mother Against Drunk Driving Underage Compliance Enforcement Award at MADD's Night of Remembrance event at Manchester Coffee County Conference Center. His work at TABC since 2021 includes enforcing underage-drinking laws, conducting compliance checks in Tennessee's licensed establishments, and safeguarding communities. **GN**



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# Good Living

## CHAPTER 2 OF 3

This section of the magazine covers local people or businesses you need to know about.

- 28** Unveiling “Lantern Light”: South Cumberland’s rich history
- 32** A farm encounter
- 40** Autumn Harvest
- 54** A taste of the harvest

Our stories are based on submissions from local people. Submit yours here:



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Photography by Brooke Snyder





# UNVEILING “LANTERN LIGHT”:





# SOUTH CUMBERLAND'S RICH HISTORY





# MEGAN LINGERFELT SHARES SOUTH CUMBERLAND'S RICH HISTORY THROUGH HER AWE-INSPIRING MURAL CREATION.

By Jeriah Brumfield // Photography by Brooke Snyder

**I**N A display of artistic brilliance and community engagement, renowned artist Megan Lingerfelt has concluded an extraordinary six-day endeavor in Grundy County, leaving behind Tracy City's first magnificent full-scale mural, aptly titled "Lantern Light." This masterpiece captures profound moments within South Cumberland's vibrant history, preserving the narratives of the Cherokee Nation, Swiss immigrants, civil rights activists from the Highlander Folk School, and the intrepid coal miners through Tennessee's South Cumberland Tourism Partnership's ambitious oral history project.

Before commencing the mural's creation, the Destination Marketing Association (DMA) and the tourism commission orchestrated a community forum, inviting locals to contribute their cherished historical moments worthy of recognition.

According to a press release, a passionate resident said, "Coal mining started the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company and later became U.S. Steel. It also started the funding for The University of the South. The Sewanee area was the first area where coal was found on the mountain, called the Sewanee Seam. Tracy City was the center of all mining activity and the railhead. The Mountain Goat train brought people to the mountain, contributing to The University of the South and Monteagle Assembly."

Coal mining was not only the livelihood of countless early plateau settlers but also birthed a labor movement that rose against the utilization of prison labor, pitting itself against established unions. Today, visitors to the area can still marvel at the remnants of the Lone Rock Coke Ovens, an emblem of the coal mining era. These ovens, over 120 in number, operated during the late 1800s, nestled just below the railway, and now stand as a cherished entry on the National Historic Register, embodying the region's storied past.

Inspired by these captivating tales and the valor of the miners showcased in the Coal Miners Museum in Whitwell, Megan Lingerfelt embarked on her artistic journey, finding inspiration in the oil lamp sheltered within the Grundy County Historical Society building.



“Color plays an important role in this one, and it is all about the glow and texture of the coal,” the artist said. “I also spent some time with a man at the mining museum who shared what it was like working in low-profile spaces, something I tried to portray with the floor and ceiling in this design.”

The tourism commission handpicked the building owned by Doug and Kalene Hankins, proprietors of Hank’s Corner Grille and the newly opened hostel, The Goat Pen, as the mural’s home.

Kalene reflects on the week-long spectacle with excitement, stating, “It’s been an exciting week watching the community embrace this amazing project. Each day added to the suspense of watching the mural progress,” Kalene said. “We are grateful for the opportunity to partner with Megan and DMA to transform what was a blank wall into a piece of art that pays homage to a piece of Tracy [City’s] history for everyone to enjoy.”

The realization of “Lantern Light” was made possible through the generous support of Tennessee’s South Cumberland Tourism Partnership Inc. and a Creative Placemaking grant from the esteemed Tennessee Arts Commission. Prior to Tracy City, DMA triumphantly executed two mural projects in Madisonville, also funded by Tennessee Arts Commission grants, cementing their commitment to fostering artistic expression throughout the state.

## THE INSPIRING ARTIST

Megan Lingerfelt, a native of North Carolina, honed her drawing and painting skills at the University of North Carolina Asheville. Following her graduation with a Bachelor of Fine Arts, she embarked on a journey of self-discovery in Seattle, where she found her passion for mural art.

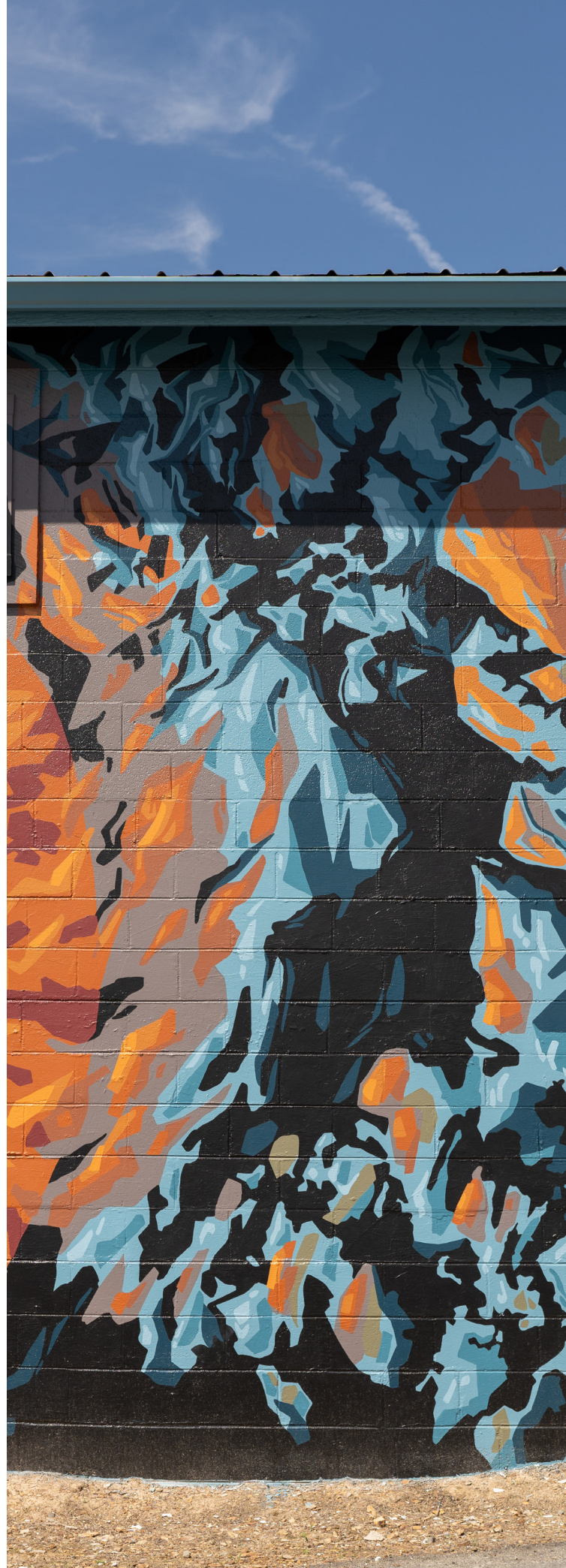
Currently residing in Oak Ridge, Lingerfelt continues her illustrious career in public art, adorning Tennessee’s walls with her magnificent large-scale pieces. Her creations are a harmonious fusion of natural elements and engineered forms, incorporating the distinctive nuances of each mural’s location.

Through bold colors, intricate line work, and an emphasis on light and contrast, Lingerfelt’s compositions breathe life into the essence of the community they adorn, creating visually distinct landmarks that resonate deeply with their surroundings.

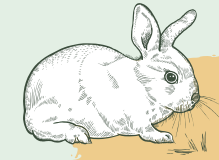
Let us revel in the beauty of “Lantern Light” and embrace the transformative power of murals, for they have the remarkable ability to celebrate our shared history, inspire our present, and ignite a sense of belonging within our vibrant community, giving it that sense of “home,” we all know and love.

The captivating tale of “Lantern Light” unfolds, revealing the rich tapestry of the community’s history. This remarkable mural uniquely conveys the power of artistic brilliance and community engagement.

Let this remarkable mural remind us all that there are extraordinary things in our communities waiting to be cherished. Just as “Lantern Light” captures the vibrant narratives of Tracy City’s past, let us embrace the murals, the stories, and the hidden treasures that bring our own neighborhoods to life. **GN**







# A Farm Encounter

Lyndi and Darrin's mission to make Franklin County feel like home.

By Jeriah Brumfield  
Photography by Brooke Snyder

**B**EAN ACRES Farm Camp, bordering Tims Ford Lake, located on 48 acres of family-owned farmland in Franklin County, has become a cherished haven for children over the past four years. Lyndi Bean and her husband, Darrin, turned her vision of a place where children could experience the simple joys of childhood into a reality. Bean Acres LLC is known for its stunning wedding venues, church camps, delightful celebrations, and enriching children's summer camps that capture the hearts of families in Franklin County.

The day at Bean Acres Farm Camp starts with a hearty breakfast prepared by Tullahoma Nutrition and delivered to the campers at 9 a.m. The schedule varies each day, offering a range of activities such as animal time, crafting, and engaging board games.







Elyn & Gracie

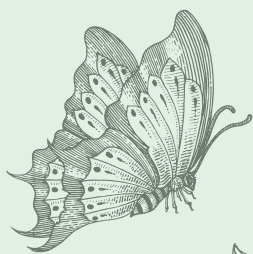
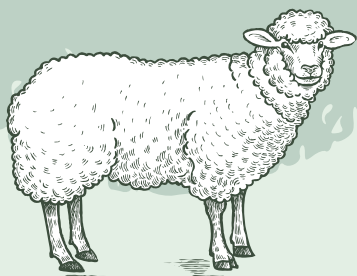




“

I love seeing kids' eyes light up when they feed a chicken for the first time or their first interaction with the animals.

-Lyndi Bean







Carissa & Bayla





The farm houses various remarkable animals, including chickens, rabbits, cows, goats, ponies, and even a donkey. Interacting with these animals is a highlight for the children as they learn about the natural world around them.

“I love seeing kids’ eyes light up when they feed a chicken for the first time or their first interaction with the animals,” Lyndi remarked.

“I just love that the kids get to be kids and just be outside. When they go home, they’re dirty, sweaty, and stinky because we’re always outside. They get to be kids here on the farm.”

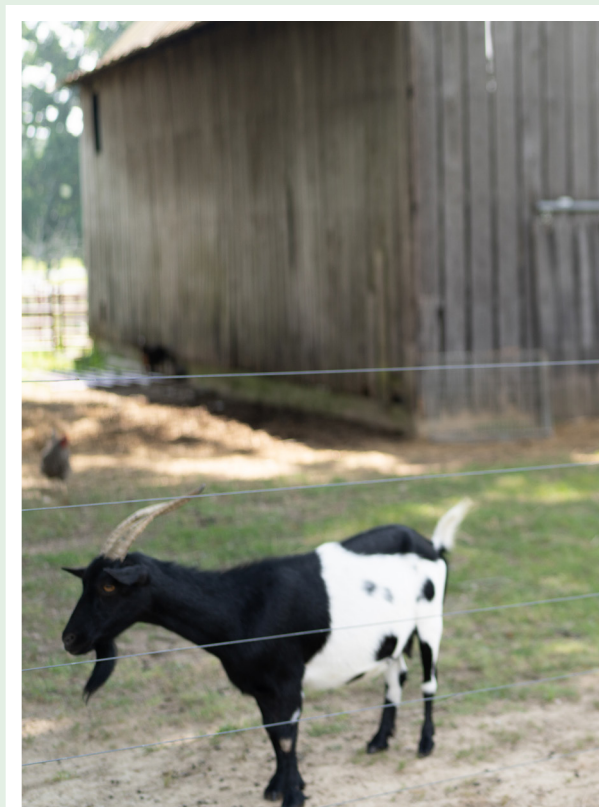
Bean Acres LLC provides nutritious lunches and snacks to energize the young campers throughout the day. Afternoons are perfect for water games, particularly during the sweltering

summers. The Beans are sure not to forget the educational aspect of Bean Acres Farm Camp, as they collaborate with community organizations such as the Franklin County Sheriff’s Department, the Winchester Fire Department, Tims Ford State Park Rangers, Franklin County Soil Conservation, Thompson Appalachian Hardwoods, and the Middle Tennessee Raptors, are only a few to mention.

“We invite anyone within the community to share their expertise with the farm campers,” she explained.

“We want them to leave here not only with cherished memories but also with newfound knowledge learned at camp.”

For Lyndi and Darrin, Bean Acres Farm is not just a venue but a testament to their love for Franklin County and commitment



Lyndi & Darrin  
Bean

to making the community feel at home. Both having been born and raised in this tight-knit Southern haven, they couldn’t imagine calling any other place “home.”

The farm’s transformation from a humble plot of land to a cherished children’s paradise has been a journey of discovery for the couple. Despite not growing up on farms, they have introduced chickens, cows, goats, rabbits, and a donkey turning their family’s farm into a haven of something extraordinary while learning about farming themselves.

The success of Bean Acres Farm Camp is measured not only by the joy it brings to the children but also by the outpouring of support from the community. Parents consistently praise the camp, sharing stories of their children’s newfound friendships and unforgettable experiences.

Lyndi’s passion for children and dedication to their growth and happiness shine through every interaction. Her involvement in church activities and nonprofit





organizations reflects her commitment to fostering the well-being of young hearts and minds.

“We’ve always loved kids, and this is a dream come true,” she said.

“My husband had gone back to college to complete his business management degree. He had to write a business plan during his studies, and this was when we started discussing what business he would write about. So I started imagining my dream, and he started writing the business plan.”

Children and families learn the transformative power of embracing life’s simple pleasures on Bean Acres Farm. Children relish muddy adventures, chase butterflies, and make lifelong friends at camp.

Lyndi believes in allowing children to explore, get their hands dirty, jump in mud puddles, and enjoy being a kid. She encourages them to trust themselves, be self-reliant, and appreciate the wonders of nature. Families can come

together to create lasting memories and celebrate milestones.

The community lies at the heart of everything the Beans do.

“Community, to me, is important. I love how our small community comes together, helps each other, and helps us provide an even more awesome experience for the kids during the summer. We provide the venue and animals while the community brings even more learning opportunities for the children,” Lyndi remarked.

The children’s laughter and the parents’ contented sighs blend with the gentle rustling of leaves. In this enchanting corner of Franklin County, Lyndi and Darrin have nurtured a place where children’s dreams and the involvement of community members take flight, imaginations soar, and the indomitable spirit of Southern hospitality resides. They have made Franklin County feel like home for children and families, one magical summer at a time. **GN**





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**S**INCE GOOD News launched, we have received more than 400 nominations for people to be covered. We're often asked how or why a story would get coverage in the magazine. The answer: YOU! Not only are the stories about local people, but they come from other local people, too! We base our magazine on submissions from our website.





# *How does a story get into Good News Magazine?*

Nominate someone to be featured in Good News Magazine.

## **Step 1:**

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We're not looking for superstars or outlandish stories. We're looking for everyday people. We believe everyone has a story. A perfect submission includes a name, contact information, and a testimony on the person's character. Include what they do for work, the community, or their impact on family and friends.

## **Step 2:**

**We select stories based on relevance to our many themes.**

We tell stories about local people. We've told stories about people ranging from first responders to school staff, including local officials, charities, volunteers, and others who have impacted our community. We cover about five people per magazine every month. Just because someone wasn't covered immediately doesn't mean they won't be covered in the near future.

## **Step 3:**

**Our team of writers and photographers reach out to plan a photo shoot and conduct the interview.**

The Good News team continues to be inspired by the submissions and the stories we're given the opportunity to tell. In order to stay ahead of the volume of stories, we complete the story and photos several months before we go to print for that issue.

*We believe that everyone has a story. Our writers are trained to find the good in everyone and are experts at telling positive stories. If we choose to include your story, a writer and photographer will be in touch! Unfortunately, we can't respond to every submission, but we read and review every submission! We appreciate and thank you for your submission, and we can't wait to tell your story.*

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# AUTUMN HARVEST

A stylized, white-outlined illustration of a corn cob with yellow kernels and green husks, positioned to the right of the word 'AUTUMN' in the main title.





As autumn's gentle embrace envelops the land, it's easy to find yourself drawn to the mesmerizing symphony of colors that unfold during the harvest season. The vibrant oranges, deep reds, and golden yellows of the falling leaves mirror the warmth of love within the community. Walk through local farms and smell the crisp air that carries hints of earthy sweetness. With each corn plucked and pumpkin gathered, we are reminded of the bountiful rewards that patience and nurturing can bring, and feel a deep connection of community growth and renewal.



# **FIVE** generations **STRONG**

A journey rooted in Franklin County's  
agricultural heritage

By Jeriah Brumfield // Photography by Brooke Snyder

**S**TEP ONTO the vibrant and historic grounds of the Woodall Family Farm in Decherd, and immerse yourself in a history deeply rooted in agriculture. The Woodalls have birthed passionate agricultural professionals for generations, passing down their farming expertise from one hand to another. Their journey began when their grandfather Charles Woodall, from the charming town of Guntersville, Alabama, moved down with his family to Tennessee after his 7th birthday in 1936. Little did they know, this humble farm would carve its name in Tennessee's rich heritage.

From a young age, the Woodall brothers, Jared and Justin, were instilled with a profound connection to the land. Guided by their father, Eddy, and their uncle, Bobby, they embarked on a journey that would forever bind them to their ancestral farm. Today, alongside their spouses, Jared's wife, Angela, and Justin's wife, JoCarole, the Woodall Grain Company flourishes, reaching new heights with every passing season.







Jared & Justin  
Woodall





While Justin oversees the farm's operation, Jared takes charge of the grain enterprise and elevator. Growing up, Justin knew he would someday carry on the family's farming legacy. When the time came, he hit the ground running, channeling his passion into transforming the Woodall Family Farm into a thriving enterprise.

Jared went on to attend Middle Tennessee State University before returning home to join the family farm. His path eventually led him to steer the ship of Woodall Grain Company, a business they established to meet the ever-growing demand for grain and risk management.

Reflecting on his journey, Jared shared, "When I came back from school, we always had family farm storage. There was just an opportunity in the marketplace here for additional services, as farms had grown. As producers had grown and yields were getting bigger, there just wasn't enough local infrastructure or grain operations to handle the crop. We started helping neighbors get their crop out by buying their crop."

The Woodall family graciously supports initiatives like Farm Kids Day, seeking every chance to impart the importance of agriculture to younger generations. In an era where agricultural pursuits often take a backseat to other career paths, the Woodalls aim to nurture a renewed interest in this vital field.

Each passing day witnesses the Woodall family's unwavering dedication to serving their community and catering to the unique needs of individuals and businesses alike. They take immense pride in being stewards of the land, aligning their values with their faith in God.



▲ Justin, JoCarole, Mason, Brooklyn, Brandon, Jared, Luke, Eva Grace, and Angela



Running a family business presents its fair share of challenges, and the Woodalls have encountered numerous roadblocks over the years.

But Jared readily acknowledges that working together has profoundly impacted their family dynamic.

"Working together, the family has definitely made us all grow closer together, as far as making decisions and as far as why our business has grown on the farming and grain end. We've been blessed by good people to work for us to help us through different obstacles that we've had. When we first started the grain business, I never in my wildest dreams thought we would be where we are today."

The Woodall Family Farm operates primarily for commercial purposes, yet their commitment to the community shines through their unwavering passion for providing quality supplies and grain products to fellow agriculture enthusiasts and community members.

The Woodall Family Farm comprises 3,200 acres of corn, wheat, and soybeans. They produce an impressive 750 to 1,000 head of feeder cattle per year, which they feed until they're 850 pounds.

Five generations strong, the Woodall Family Farm stands tall as an enduring example of family-owned legacies and businesses. Jared and Justin hope for many more years of Woodall family tradition.

Jared reflected, "I hope the next five generations can say they can. It's humbling because we've been blessed. We've been surrounded by really good people. We've got an incredible team of people that work with us and for us and support us."

For Jared and Justin, harvest time is a cherished moment when the fruits of their labor come to fruition.

"Harvest season is my favorite time of year," Justin remarked. "Because you get to reap what you sow. You get to harvest the crops the good Lord sent you through the year. You get to reap the benefits, whether rain, drought, or whatever it might be."

The Woodall family upholds tradition while embracing innovation. Their dedication to their craft, community, and family shines as bright as the sun. As their legacy continues to grow, the Woodalls remain firmly committed to stewarding the land and honoring their roots. GN





**AUTUMN  
Harvest**

Cultivating  
**COMMUNITY** and  
**QUALITY**  
in Middle Tennessee

South Cumberland Farmers  
Market's online hub cultivates  
quality and community.

By Jeriah Brumfield // Photography by Brooke Snyder







Emily Heid

**I**N ATHENS, Georgia, a passionate advocate of local farmers breathed life into an innovative software that revolutionized connections with nearby growers. Locally Grown emerged as a beacon of hope, blending the convenience of online shopping with unwavering support for local agriculture.

Meanwhile, in Manchester, Linda Reed, a dedicated bookstore owner, stumbled upon Locally Grown while seeking a grocery solution. She transformed her bookstore into a pickup location, marking the humble beginnings of an extraordinary collaboration. With the participation of more farmers, Locally Grown introduced customers to a vibrant array of small-scale farmers and their diverse offerings. Reed added her personal touch with beautiful plants and seasonal decorations.

At its core, the market radiates a steadfast dedication to supporting local farmers within a 30-mile radius. Customers cherish its transparency and authenticity, recognizing the significance of reducing their ecological footprint. Reed, determined to showcase the market's impact, emphasized the commitment of small-scale farmers and the unmatched freshness of their products.





Maddie Witt ▲

▼ Elena Hamann

As the market expands, its influence extends to neighboring areas, spreading waves of positive change. Locally Grown has evolved into a heartfelt celebration of the South's agricultural heritage, intertwining food, connection, and shared values reminiscent of cherished childhood memories on a grandmother's farm.

A vibrant tapestry of small-scale growers emerges as more farmers join Locally Grown's embrace, charming customers with diverse offerings.

Deeply rooted in shared values, the market has flourished, nurturing connections that transcend its physical boundaries.

Inspired by the spirit of their grandmothers' gardens and childhood farms, the market embraces its role as a steward of the South's agricultural heritage. In this place, community members and locals share stories, their laughter echoes through the stalls, and the warm embrace of community intertwines with the harvest's bounty.





The South Cumberland Farmers Market emerged from Locally Grown's fertile soil, embracing its roots while reaching new horizons. The market thrived under locallygrown.net. It was the second longest-running market using Locally Grown's software and web address, after Athens Locally Grown.

But, confusion arose as it also responded to the call of the South Cumberland Farmers Market at Sewanee. Rooted Here, an umbrella organization, nurtured the market and food hub. The food hub became independent, while Rooted Here guided the farmers market.

Emily Heid with South Cumberland Farmers Market said, "Rooted Here was the larger name for the food hub and the farmers market. So, the food hub has successfully sold to restaurants in Chattanooga and the University of the South in Sewanee. And so they ended up becoming their own organization outside of Rooted Here. And now we have Rooted Here, and then we have the farmers market under it. So they're interchangeable."

Despite their diverging paths, their mission remains the same — to ignite local growers and share their bountiful treasures with the community. Together, they form an unbreakable bond, celebrating the fruits of our land.

The market's growth is undeniably evident, and Reed's impact continues.

"Linda sells her plants and beautiful decorations through the South Cumberland Farmers Market as well. It's nice that we are connected to her online market in that way."

There is an undeniable warmth that persists within the virtual walls of the farmers market hub.

Heid remarked, "It's hard losing that farmers market community experience. But I think a lot of our customers find value in being able to place their orders online during the weekend when they're doing their meal planning and just swing by and pick up their stuff after work and not have to spend that time shopping around. And a lot of them do get to do that at other local farmers markets."

Jess Wilson with In Town Organics said, "It is nice that I can know exactly what is sold ahead of time and deliver it to market and get back to farming rather than sitting around wondering what folks will buy that day."

Experience the heartwarming connection between food, community, and shared values. Shop local, support local, and let the bountiful treasures of our land provide you with a sense of "home" and "community." **GN**



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**jessandnatew@yahoo.com**  
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Cove Creek Farm raises cows, pigs, and chickens in Monteagle and Tracy City and recently opened an agritourism enterprise at their property in Monteagle.

**mattsparacio@gmail.com**  
**(856) 296-0217**

### MIDWAY MUSHROOMS

Midway Mushrooms grows gourmet mushrooms in the Midway community between Sewanee and Monteagle.

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For more information, visit <https://www.southcumberlandfarmersmarket.com/>



Andrew  
Dixon







**AUTUMN  
Harvest**

# FALL on the FARM

Granddaddy's Farm welcomes all ages to come and enjoy the fall season.

By Jeriah Brumfield

Photography by Brooke Snyder and submitted by Andrew Dixon

**F**ALL IS an exciting time around these parts. Its arrival brings a sense of warmth, comfort, and joy, with many things to look forward to during the season.

High school and college football are gearing up. Fans don their lucky hats and shirts, excited to participate in the ritual of Friday Night Lights.

There is also a much-welcomed coolness to the air that signals one of Mother Nature's biggest shows of the year with the changing of the leaves. Red, orange, and yellow leaves create picturesque landscapes around every corner.

Another exciting aspect of the fall season is Halloween. Folks are making plans for creativity with costumes and decorating their houses accordingly. They also have a few haunted places to check out with friends and family.

Fall is also a great time to explore the great outdoors. The season creates a breathtaking backdrop for a scenic hike or bike ride. Camping during this time of the year is also an experience, with cooler temperatures and fewer crowds.





But one of the best things about the fall season is the annual visit to the pumpkin patch. It is the quintessential fall activity that is fun for all ages. For the last 18 years, Granddaddy's Farm has offered families a chance to get into the spirit of the harvest season while creating lifelong memories with friends and family.

Since 1951, Granddaddy's Farm has been a family-owned business run by the Dixon family. The farming tradition has been passed down from generation to generation, starting with Charles Dixon and his wife working tirelessly on the land while raising their four children. Despite working full time at a hardware store in Decherd, Charles never gave up on his passion for farming.

Years later, the farm is a family operation with Charles's grandson, Steve, and wife, Karen, along with their two sons, Andrew and Philip Dixon, following proudly in his footsteps. Andrew and Philip say they are proud fourth-generation farmers who work side by side with their dad daily. The family farm has over 2,000 acres in Franklin and Moore Counties, with a significant portion of the acreage being rented property.

"We have a wholesale straw operation and raise several cattle as well," said farm co-owner Andrew Dixon. "We also grow soybeans, corn, and wheat. Diverting our farm operation has allowed us to handle more households living off the farm."

While the farm has been a working farm for 65 years for the Dixon family, 18 years ago, the family decided to open it to the public.

Andrew explained that "going into agritourism was another way to keep the farm viable for the future."

"It goes back to when we were kids and working on the farm," added Andrew. "The cornstalk bundles we sold wholesale to fruit stands and farmers markets. That was the way my siblings and I made money. When I was about to graduate, Dad began to look at how we could stay on the farm if we wanted to. Someone had given us the idea to make it a place where folks could visit, and we just put the idea into motion."

Because it was his great-grandfather's farm, Andrew said they knew they had to name it after him.





“This is my great-grandfather’s farm. He died four years before we opened. We always called it Granddaddy’s Farm, so the name just stuck with it,” he said.

Today, the farm offers hayrides, a corn maze, slides of all shapes and sizes, games, pig races, a u-pick pumpkin patch, an apple orchard, and more.

Andrew said that over the years, the farm has added new attractions to encourage visitors of all ages to enjoy the fun on the farm.

“Each year, the farm has built on itself, and we just keep adding more and more,” he said. “We try to add things that allow parents to play with their kids. They (parents) are paying customers, and we want them to have a great time and as much fun as the kids are having. We listen to our employees and customers to continue improving the farm.”

Their mission is to share the joy of farming, agriculture, and agritourism with their community. The Dixon brothers are passionate about preserving their family’s legacy and making lasting memories for visitors to the farm. Their love of agriculture and dedication to their craft makes it easy to carry on the tradition started by Charles over 70 years ago.

“I’m excited for my son. He’ll be 2 this fall, and I am excited for him to be able to play and enjoy the farm himself,” said Andrew. “We love to see everyone enjoying it. My dad has always joked that he enjoys seeing the kids crying when they leave because he knows they’re having a good time.”

The farm is open from mid-September through October and is located at 454 Highland Ridge Rd. in Estill Springs. Plan your visit at [granddaddysfarm.com](http://granddaddysfarm.com). GN









# A taste of the harvest

Fall brings sweet treats and savory favorites

By Kali Bradford

**A**UTUMN BRINGS a bounty of delicious foods to enjoy as the weather cools down. From sweet to savory, there are plenty of flavors to savor during the fall season. Nothing quite beats a warm apple cider doughnut or pumpkin spice latte for breakfast. As lunchtime rolls around, hearty soups and stews, like butternut squash soup or beef chili, become go-to options. Roasted root vegetables and savory pot pies are comforting and filling for dinner. Of course, no fall meal would be complete without a slice of warm apple pie or a pumpkin-spiced dessert. Indulging in these seasonal treats is one of the best ways to truly embrace the flavors of autumn. **GN**



## Deep Dish Apple Pie

*Submitted by Virginia Campbell*

6 tart cooking apples, peeled,  
cut in eighths  
1 c. sugar  
1 stick butter, softened  
1 c. flour  
1/4 c. brown sugar  
scoop of vanilla ice cream, optional

Place apple slices into a casserole dish. Cover apples with sugar. In a medium mixing bowl, blend together butter, flour, and brown sugar until it looks like meal. Spread this mixture over apples in the casserole dish. Bake at 350° for 1 hour. Remove from oven and add a scoop of vanilla ice cream to hot pie if desired.

## Wonderful Butternut Squash Soup

*Submitted by Nancy Morrison*

2 lg. butternut squash, remove ends,  
cut in half lengthwise, remove seeds  
6 slices bacon  
2 onions, chopped  
2 T. butter  
3 c. chicken broth  
salt & pepper, to taste

Place cut side down on baking sheet and bake at 350° for about an hour. Fry bacon in a skillet, remove bacon, add onions to bacon grease. Add butter, saute until lightly brown. Blend all ingredients, cooked squash minus the skin, bacon, onions, and chicken broth in a blender. Heat in large pot or Crock-Pot, add salt and pepper and more chicken broth to get to the consistency that you prefer.

## Hot Mulled Apple Cider

*Submitted by Johnnie Baker*

1/2 c. brown sugar  
1 t. whole allspice  
1 t. whole cloves  
1/4 t. salt  
dash of nutmeg  
1 cinnamon stick, 3 inches  
2 qts. apple cider  
8-10 orange wedges

In a saucepan, combine brown sugar, allspice, cloves, salt, nutmeg, cinnamon sticks, and cider. Bring to a boil. Remove all spices. In a large serving bowl, pour cider over orange wedges. Serve in mugs and place an orange wedge in each one for garnish.

*Submit your recipes to be included in Good News  
Magazine and the Exchange Cookbook:  
[www.southernaprons.com](http://www.southernaprons.com)*



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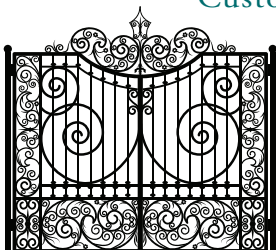
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**CHAPTER 3 OF 3**

This section of the magazine covers local things to do.

**60** Community Events

**64** Events Calendar

**66** Advertiser Index

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Photography by Brooke Snyder

◀ Lacie, Oakley and Memphis



# Back to School Chamber Connection - August 14



Photography by Brooke Snyder

The Franklin County Chamber of Commerce hosted a Back to School Chamber Connection at Mot's Shaved Ice featuring an exciting lineup of games, face paintings, shaved ice, and activities for the entire family to enjoy.



1. Josie Nunley 2. Axle and Malloree Snyder 3. Tyler and Jaxton Miller 4. Cassie Fulmer and Kayla Doney  
5. Lacie Holder 6. Penny Morris, Debra West, and Kirsten Johnson



# Fall Heritage Festival Beauty Pageant - August 6



Photos submitted by Ashlynn G. Photography

On August 6, the Fall Heritage Festival hosted a beauty pageant at Monterey Station as a fundraiser for their three-day celebration in Cowan on September 15-17. The pageant crowned winners of all ages, from newborn all the way up to their 18 and over category.



1. Haley Timbs DeMoss 2. Anna-Leise Strohm  
3. Haven Chrestman 4. Carol Ann Stephens





Steve Macon making cotton candy at the Back to School Chamber Connection





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# 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.**

**Good News**  
e×change

## EVENTS CALENDAR

### September 16

**11:00 am Off Road Vehicle Parade - Fall Heritage Festival**  
South Middle School  
Cowan

One of the most popular Fall Heritage Festival attractions is back! For applications and additional info, visit [fallheritagefestival.org](http://fallheritagefestival.org)

**6:00 pm Fall Heritage Festival**  
108 S. Front St.  
Cowan

Join in on this three day event filled with kids activities, live music, exhibits, fireworks, and more! This years headliner is the legendary band, EXILE! Free admission to the festival, but reserved seating area for the main stage is \$25. Chairs can be reserved until the day of or once capacity is reached. All seating is first come first serve, with the gates opening at 5:30 p.m. For additional info, visit [fallheritagefestival.org](http://fallheritagefestival.org)

### September 23

**8:00 am Dixie Sims Memorial Bluegrass and Gospel Singing - The Agee Family**  
626 Bennett Cemetery Rd.  
Decherd

Ms. Dixie was a huge supporter of Camp Rain, and the event is to honor her memory as well as raise funds for the camp.

**8:30 am 2023 Walk to End Alzheimer's®**  
133 Lynchburg Hwy.  
Lynchburg

Held annually in more than 600 communities nationwide, Walk to End Alzheimer's is the world's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support, and research.

**9:00 am Fall Festival Market**  
104 Monterey St.  
Cowan

Support your local vendors! We will have a kid zone, food trucks, and more!





**2:00 pm TN02 Southern Middle Tennessee Pavilion**  
1041 Wilton Circle  
Winchester, TN

*September 27*

**5:30 pm The Rain Teen Center**  
1910 Sharp Springs Rd.  
Winchester

Dinner, snacks, activities, and games and games for children between the sixth and twelfth grades.

*October 14*

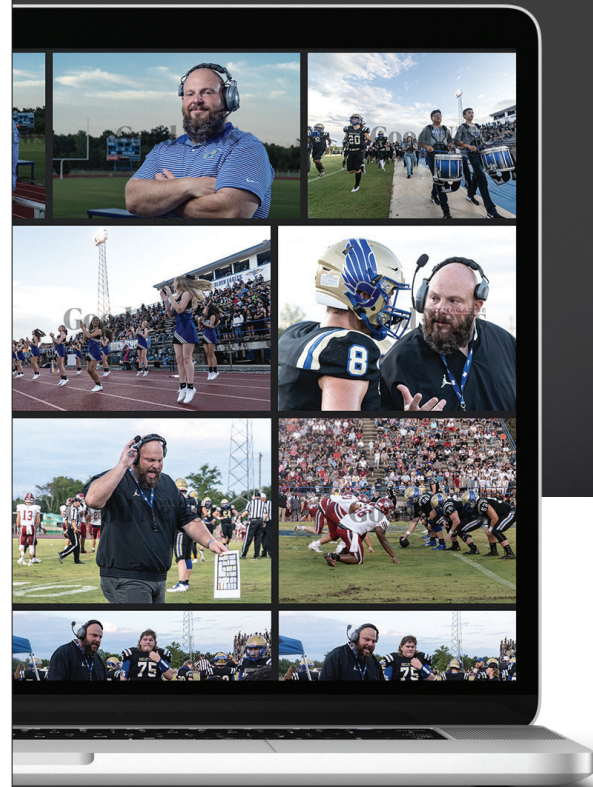
**1:00 pm Broadview Volunteer Fire Department Fall Fish Fry**  
5253 Lynchburg Rd.  
Winchester

Join in on this “fintastic” fish fry at the station from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

*October 28*

**11:00 am Belvidere Volunteer Fire Department Fall Fish Fry**  
Belvidere  
Community Center  
349 Belvidere Rd.  
Belvidere, TN

Join us for all you can eat fish, chicken, fixings, and homemade desert, as well as bluegrass music. Adults \$15, children (4-12) \$5. Contact Ed Burns at (931) 636-4488 for details.



**For more events and to submit an event visit:**

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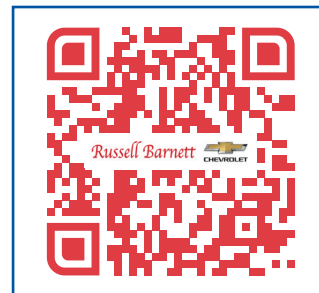


*"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant."*

*~ Robert Lewis Stevenson*



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