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This property features open fields and scattered woods, long winding road leading back, 4 bedroom soil septic site and lots of wildlife. Convenient to Murfreesboro, Franklin, & Chapel Hill. Ideal place for a secluded home, but

0 Old Nashville Dirt Road, Shelbyville, TN \$600.000 MLS# 2555044

Completely Renovated Home in Riverbend Country Club!!



This stunning home features 3 beds, 2 baths, hardwood & tile flooring, recessed lighting, custom made shaker style cabinets, farm sink in island, wine cooler/fridge in kitchen, all stainless steel appliances stay, huge walk in closets throughout home, tiled shower w/rain heads & body sprays in primary bathroom, plus a roomy air jetted tub, barn doors in utility room. Exterior features a composite cladding siding, oversized heated & cooled 2 car attached garage and 29x36 deck for entertainment and outdoor living space!

240 Riverbend Country Club Road, Shelbyville, TN \$749,900 MLS# 2589395

Custom Built Colonial Style Home!



This home is situated on 6.14 acres, has 4 bedrooms, 4.5 bathrooms and approximately 7,700 sqft under roof. Interior features hardwood, carpet, and tile flooring throughout, granite countertops in kitchen with island and pantry, walk in closets, tons of storage, attic space in upstairs, fully finished basement and more! Exterior features 5 car garage spaces (3 up and 2 down), covered porch, 21x11 sunroom with thermo-pane windows and

625 Smith Chapel Road, Tullahoma, TN \$889,000 MLS# 2545149

Great Commercial Property



Great commercial property in a convenient location in the Historic Bell Buckle! Property like this doesn't come available often; it has been in the same family for over 30+ years! Prime location for tourism, ideal for retail space, & water tap on site.

0 Hinkle Hill Rd Bell Buckle, TN 37020 \$425,000 MLS# 2601184

Unrivaled Cabin Situated on 153+/- Acres



This secluded and private renovated cabin has 3 bedrooms, 3 full baths, soaring ceilings, stone fireplace (wood burning), brick fireplace in basement, covered deck out back, miles of trails, tree stands will remain as well as shooting houses, excellent hunting for whitetail and wild turkey, food plots, mature hardwoods and barn has cooler room for hanging your harvests, spring water & much more!

249 Coffey Road, Petersburg, TN \$1.450.000 MLS# 2563618

Modern Farmhouse Oasis!



Upgrades Galore & No City Taxes! 3BR w/390 sq ft Man Cave, Horse Barn w/200 sq ft heated & cooled tack room & tranquil countryside. This stunning 2-year-old home w/3 BR/2.5 BA, open floor plan. Unwind in the heart of the home w/a cozy gas fireplace, granite countertops, gas stove & SS appliances. The breakfast nook & pantry make entertaining a breeze, tile flooring in the BAs, hardwood in the LR & kitchen, a luxurious free-standing tub in the master BA, & a spacious walk-in closet. A 2-car garage leads to a 13x13 office/13x13 bar space, upstairs storage all w/noise canceling insulation & epoxy floors greenhouse & raised garden beds. Relax & unwind on the 21x17 covered porch & soak in the stunning farm views.

246 Pinkston Rd Shelbyville, TN 37160 \$599,900 MLS# 2602656

Pristine & Rolling 300+/- Acre Farm



This property features a House, Studio/Bunkhouse, Shop, Barns & More!!! Generator hook-ups and city water w/spring available. Farm has 2 Hay Barns w/sheds, open equipment barn and cattle working barn, fenced and cross fenced throughout property, 6 waterers and more. Simply breathtaking views of Downtown Lynchburg! Very Secluded - Home half mile off Goosebranch Road.

501 Gray Road, Lynchburg, TN \$3,599,000 MLS# 2586908

Million Dollar Views!!



This beautiful renovated 4 bedroom 3.5 bath home is situated on 1.7+/acres and has amazing river frontage! This home was recently re-insulated and features 2 stone fireplaces, granite tops/granite sinks, full finished basement w/apartment including a bed, bath and kitchen. Exterior features a screened in porch, garage that has a full bath w/new window unit and gas heat, apartment at the back of the garage and much more!

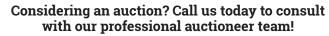
105 Patton Road, Shelbyville, TN \$775.000 MLS# 2579985

Remarkable Property Nestled on 57.5+/- Acres



This beautiful 3 bed 2 bath home is in the southern side of Bedford County. This property has so much to offer. High Speed internet, Multiple different building locations, City water but also has 3 extra wells for livestock, crops, irrigation etc. HVAC and roof are just 6 yrs old, Property is fully fenced for livestock. Property has some of the best hunting and loaded with wildlife. Brand new siding on the home and brand new attached carport as well. Don't miss your opportunity to own this beautiful farm.

708 Amos Gammill Road, Shelbyville, TN \$675,000 MLS# 2580020



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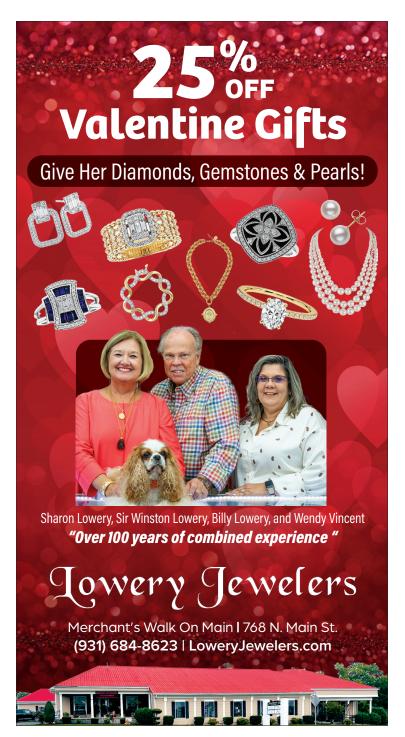


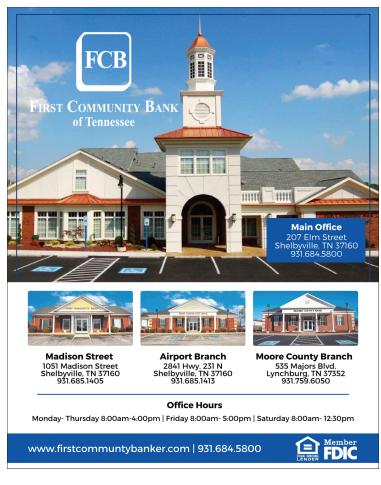
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We are thankful for everyone we got to help in 2023, and we look forward to helping more in 2024!



328 Squire Hall Rd., Shelbyville, TN.- Price Reduced!! Gorgeous custom built 3BR, 2½BA, Hardee board/stone construction home. Open floor plan living, dining, kitchen, & breakfast nook. All BR are downstairs. Spacious Master Suite w/walk-in closet & master BA. Formal dining room on one side & large office on the other side of foyer. Great room has fireplace, kitchen, 3 ovens, all stainless appliances remain w/home/. Upstairs has bonus/game room & large sitting room. Covered front & back porches, patio, she shed, 3 stall tractor shed w/work shop, storage building, 3 stall horse barn. Tornado shelter, generator, & 3 car garage. All this on gorgeous 29.8 acres that are fenced & cross fenced. \$1,149,900 ML\$# 2576312



524 Highway 82 E, Bell Buckle, TN 37020 - CUSTOM: One owner 3 BR 3 BA brick home with 2 BR 1 BA tenant house on 62+ acres with large pond with pier, older barn & 2 older chicken houses for barn use or storage. Main house has LR w/FP, den, MBR & BA, DR, K w/ breakfast room, guest bath all downstairs. Upstairs you have 2 BR, office & large bonus room & 1 BA. Property has 1,317' of frontage on Hwy 82 E & 1,898' of frontage on Adams Ln. This property is great for farm living or possible development property with this amount of Rd. frontage. Located just outside of Bell Buckle. **\$1,499,900 MLS# 2562991**



100 Logan St., Shelbyville, TN - REDUCED! INVITING: One owner 3 BR, 2.5 BA custom brick home. Home is on a shady corner lot in a highly sought after neighborhood. Downstairs has a large master suite with a walk-in-closet. Kitchen with breakfast nook, formal DR, and LR are all very spacious. Two large bedrooms upstairs w/BA. Home has plenty of closet and storage space. Oversized 2 car garage. Join Riverbend Country Club to get all of the amenities. **\$579,900 MLS#2559687**



307 Forest Ave., Shelbyville, TN - Charming 3 bedroom, 1 Bath home on large lot. Home has lots of upgrades!!! Plumbing underneath has been completely redone, NEW HVAC, replacement windows, hardwood has been redone, repainted, and bath has all new upgrades. The home has a 1 car garage, as well as a carport, and concrete drive. **\$239,900 MLS#2592701**



1945 Eugene Reed Rd., Woodbury, TN 37190 - Quiet and cozy home with large, open living, kitchen and dining. 3 bedroom, 2 bath split bedroom style. Primary bedroom has an attached bath and large walk-in closet. 2 car attached garage and fenced in back-yard for dogs and kids. Quiet neighborhood just minutes to Woodbury, and 30 minutes to Murfreesboro. **\$289,900 MLS# 2595123**



303 S Wood Ln., Shelbyville, TN.- Price Reduced!! Charming 3 BR, 2 BA home with large living and primary bedroom with bath attached. Split bedroom system with upgrades throughout the home. 2 car garage, and large deck. Home is situated in a quiet culde-sac. **\$299,900 MLS# 2583378**

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5087 Winchester Hwy., Lynchburg, TN - Beautiful New construction 3 BR, 2 BA home. Large and open K, LR, and DR. Split bedroom system with a large primary bedroom suite. Primary BA is exceptional with a custom tile walk-in shower, 2 sinks, and walk-in closet. Upstairs is a large bonus room over the garage. Sitting on 1.02 acres the home is beautifully landscaped with a partial privacy fence in the back, and a large deck. Just minutes from downtown Lynchburg and Lost Creek Boat Ramp. **\$419,900 MLS# 2584407**



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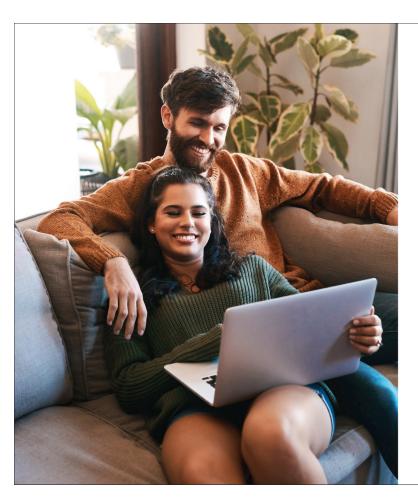
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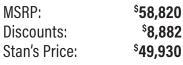
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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Every Gesture of Love is from the Heart

Celebrating everyday love

T'S HOLDING the door open for the person behind you. It's sending a sweet text when they cross your mind. It's stopping by to say "hi" when they've had a bad day. Showing up and showing love is like medicine for our souls. It lets us dance, sing, laugh, and cry together. It lets us know that someone is saving us a seat at every table. We know that – while we may be off-key – there is someone to sing backup from the passenger seat. And when we have those really bad days, we know there is a shoulder waiting like a therapeutic tissue. These moments, while they may feel

small, carry a heavy weight. It keeps the world from falling apart when it feels so fragile. It keeps our head above the water in the deepest, darkest oceans.

This issue of Good News is about celebrating our love. We're not just talking about romantic love, either. We're talking about the real love that can only come from the heart. Our community is full of actions that show love in every minute of every day. It can be as simple as a "Luv U" text or as kind as holding a door open.

We're proud to share stories of love to make the community a better place. **GN**

Wesley Bryant, MANAGING EDITOR

From our publishing partner



"As a lifetime resident of Shelbyville and an experienced advertising/marketing professional, I'm incredibly thrilled to contribute to a magazine that shares positive stories, strengthening our community. If you are interested in building a stronger brand or promoting your business feel free to reach out to me and let's talk."

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Good News

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CHAPTER 1 OF 3

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

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Submit a positive story on our website:



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Photography by Ashleigh Newnes

◀ Lindsey Trice

head-on

The Lovvorn family believes God has a plan.

HE RIVALRY of the hometown teams charges the Friday night air. The center snaps the football, and the quarterback slides the ball into the running back's hands, consistently moving the chains downfield and into the end zone. For 16 carries, No. 19 picks up yardage and charges head-on into his opponent. Cascade High School senior Sawyer Lovvorn rushed for 273 yards and six touchdowns on 16 carries in a 68-0 win and received The Tennessean Small Class Boys Athlete of the Week award in September 2023.

His football opponents aren't the only thing Sawyer's hit head-on.

On another September day in 2018, a simple river outing turned tragic for Sawyer and his friends,

Marquis Wilson and Isah Alexander. Their leisurely day on the Tennessee River quickly became a nightmare as their innertube, pulled by a jet ski, collided with a concrete bridge support.

"I just remember crying out to God, saying, 'Lord, thank you for the 12 years I've seen,' because we know our kids are a blessing from God," said Sawyer's dad, Mike.

The collision injured Marquis, and Sawyer sustained severe injuries, including a cerebral spinal fluid leak, leading to a race against time for medical intervention. Isah jumped before the impact, swam to shore, climbed the rocky embankment, and flagged down a car whose driver called 911. Marquis went home from



the hospital seven days later. In intensive care, Sawyer's recuperation hinged on carefully managing the healing of fractures and controlling the continuous fluid leak. Finally, after 17 challenging days, Sawyer returned home, scoring a hard-won touchdown in his recovery journey.

It's a score the Lovvorn family attributes to the hand of God.

"The way the community rallied around those boys, the things that happened behind the scenes, and the stories that came from it — it was horrible, but you see God's hand in the whole thing. Isah wasn't hurt, but he is the hero in the story because he was 13 years old, and he went up there and flagged somebody down. With all that happened, he didn't freeze up. He just did what needed to be done," said Sawyer's mom, Chastity.

"That was one of the incredible things about the accident — just the amount of prayer from our community. We felt those prayers. We know that God hears our prayer," Mike said.

Sawyer's brother, Sanders, wasn't with the family the day of the accident.

"I love my brother very much, and I always have. The accident made me realize just how much I loved him and would have missed him if he hadn't made it. Our relationship is even stronger now; he's my best friend," Sanders said.

Sawyer missed the 2018 football season but played the next season and each after. Also a baseball player, Sawyer missed most of his sophomore year of baseball with a torn UCL, the Tommy John ligament, in the fifth game of the season. Last summer, a Vanderbilt Children's Hospital doctor diagnosed him with superventricular tachycardia (SVT), which is when the heart beats fast and is induced by adrenaline. An ablation corrected the SVT, and Sawyer hit the football field running.

The Lovvorns, a sports-loving family, have boldly weathered each medical issue, buoyed by their faith and the community's support.

Sawyer said, "One of the biggest things the accident and some of the other injuries taught me is that nothing in life is guaranteed. You can't take anything for granted. Every day, you have to make the decisions you know you need to make and that you know God wants you to make, and do it to the best of your ability because you don't know how much longer you have."

Although his life is packed with sports, Sawyer maintains a 4.0 grade point average. It's another side of the competitive coin. But as important as those things are, they're not everything.



▲ Sawyer and Chastity Lovvorn



Sanders Lovvorn, Marquis Wilson, Isah Alexander, and Sawyer Lovvorn

"As much as I love playing football, baseball, or basketball, and as much as I love competing, I love making good grades. There are so many things I love to do. But at the end of the day, none of it really matters as much as having a relationship with my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I sometimes lose sight of that because it's hard when you're competing, and you love it so much," Sawyer said."But it's so important to stay grounded in your faith and let that be the main goal, and then sports. It's just a blessing you get from God that you use to give glory back to Him. At the end of the day, have fun and play sports. Do your best at it, but as Colossians 3:23 says, 'Whatever you do, work heartily as to the Lord and not to men.' It's hard to make this the main focus, but I try to give glory back to God in everything, to know where it comes from, and try not to take the glory for myself because I know I don't deserve it."



Chastity said, "We just know God's got a plan."

Mike agrees. "The verse that comes to mind for us as a family is Romans 8:28. 'And we know that all things work together for good to those that love God and are called according to His purpose.' We know that everything we've been through hasn't been good. But we look back on it now, and we see so many blessings — even how good things came from the bad times. That gives us even more faith in knowing that

the creator of everything looks at us, and He sees and cares about us."

The Lovvorn family faces life headon, fortified by unwavering faith and a strong family bond. As they continue to lean on their belief that God has a plan, Sawyer's unshakable spirit serves as a testament to the transformative power of faith and perseverance as he moves the chains further down the field of his journey into adulthood. He knows who's making the calls! **GN**



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"Go for it all. There's so much more for you to fulfill and accomplish."

By Tina Neeley // Photography by Ashleigh Newnes

INDSEY TRICE was stuck. Life as she knew it changed forever on Mother's Day in 2018 when she returned home from church to find her father lifeless.

"I tried to resuscitate him. [I] tried to do all those things, but he was already cold. And so, as a daddy's girl, as a girl that absolutely adored her father, my heart was broken — broken in more ways than one because I was unable to save my hero and broken because I was 29 years old at the time and just lost my father. It was rough," said Trice.

A few years later, just as her grieving was entering a new stage, her beloved Grandmama was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and was gone within a month. Trice was stunned.

"The hospice process and actually seeing her deteriorate in front of my eyes — those things took the breath out of me," said Trice. "I understand from a spiritual aspect that death is a part of it, but it didn't make it easier. And so, I felt like I was really just stuck."

From a Facebook post by Trice

There comes a point on each of our journeys that we will experience some type of loss. It's life, right!!!! But I can attest you will find you again. You will find the joy again. You will find your smile again. You will find your laugh again. You will find your passion again.

Trice wasn't the only one stuck. Trice knew that her mother and her brother were grieving, too. Trying to be strong left her drained.

"We've been through this together. I was adamant about making it for my mother and my brother. I wanted them to be okay because I knew that what we lost was a big part, especially for my mother, who had been with that man for 40-plus years of her life. It was very hard to see her struggle. [It was] hard to watch." Trice said.



Trice struggled, too, but then something began to stir. "It was like I was just going through the motions, just existing. I went through my dirty work and did grief therapy, all those things, but it was like a transition," Trice said. "I think I finally got my breath back. I finally wanted to go on, continue to dream, and aspire to leave a lasting imprint. What can I do while I'm on this earth that's gonna last a lifetime?"

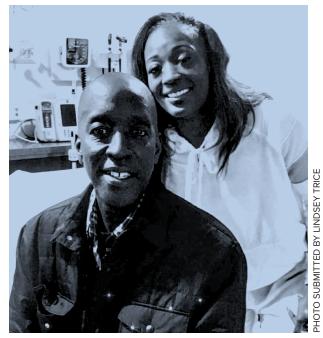
From a Facebook post by Trice

When you lose someone you love, you lose a part of you. A part of you that you will never find again. Life will never be the same, but what I do know is there will come a time on your healing journey when you will find the things that make you happy again. Those things that you were once passionate about will give you joy again. You will smile again.

Trice had big hopes and dreams before the losses. As she began to sense grief loosening its grip on her plans, she saw things with new eyes.



▲ Sharon, Lindsey, and William Trice



▲ William and Lindsey Trice

Trice said, "Now, it's bigger than me. If I can just continue the legacy of those who touched my heart dearly, like my father, whose life was cut short because of heart disease, or my grandmother with pancreatic cancer. It just came a point that was like, 'You know what, I'm gonna live for them to smile down and say how pleased they were with the life that I continued even after their transition."

She continued, "Family is everything to me. My brother and I have truly been blessed with amazing parents who sacrificed a lot for us to be afforded the opportunities we have been blessed with. It's my earnest desire to create a legacy, especially for my niece and nephews, who I absolutely adore."

From a Facebook post by Trice

Let's talk about finding your passion after loss.

Yes, your journey will absolutely look different than mine. But I'm a testament that there will come a day — to be honest, an unexpected day when you will not only find yourself again but your passion to live life to the fullest again.



Even before she began to dream again and grasp her calling to honor their legacy, she saw God working, going ahead of her to make a way to heal and, through the process, encourage others.

"So I started putting feet to that, getting Lindsey back. God opened the door, even before my grandmother [passed], at Webb School, so I was able to pour into these kids as an assistant athletic director. I was at a place where my passion and purpose were. He was still using me even then, broken," Trice said.

Her brokenness and vulnerability became her testimony and the pathway to healing.

From a Facebook post by Trice

"I sometimes find myself asking, 'What would your daddy tell you from heaven? And more recently, what would Grandmama tell you? Live Lindsey!!!

Go for it all. There's so much left for you to fulfill and accomplish. Live with no regrets. Love until your last breath!!!!"

She discovered she could start right where she was.

"I felt like He was using my brokenness in my story to help mold these kids. It was bigger than athletics. It was me mentoring these kids from a place of brokenness," she said. "I lived with the pain of feeling like I couldn't help bring my daddy back to life, but if I can just help somebody else along the way. So, it gave me an opportunity. It gave me a purpose."

From a Facebook post by Trice

Not sure who this is for, but 69

- Lindsey, 8/1/22, Facebook post

"When I made that post, I felt like there was a wind behind me. That wind was the witnesses that went before me. I knew people were cheering me on, like, 'Lindsey, go on, and just see what the ends gonna be. This is bigger than you," Trice said. "You get a little winded, and sometimes it's weird to have my daddy or grandma whisper, 'You got this.' They're forever a part of my story. They're the wind beneath my wings." GN





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Memories Multiplied





Reynolds family math is a treasured formula.

By Tina Neeley // Photography by Ashleigh Newnes

NCE A week and on holidays, Randy and Edwina ("Wina") Reynolds make room in their modest home. The goal: memories. The tables are set, and the family meal waits in the kitchen more patiently than Randy and Wina for their guests. Home is not rooms and walls but the unconditional love and unwavering support the family members find in each other. "Grammy! Grammy!" rings out, and family dinner night officially begins.

"It's the best possible kind of chaos. They hit the door running, and their first words are, 'What are we having for dinner? Can I get a snack? Where's Peepaw?'" Wina said.

The best possible kind of chaos is made possible by Randy's decision to attend a Shelbyville hairdresser beauty pageant in the late '70s, an annual event known for its beautiful contestants for many years. What better way for a single guy to spend a Saturday night?

Wina said, "His words were, 'Where can you see more pretty girls than a pageant?'"

"When I walked out, he told one of his friends that he needed to get my number to ask me out.

I'm pretty sure it was the fake eyelashes that Donna Stearns, who owned Merle Norman, glued on me that attracted him."

"I didn't even know if she would go out with me. I was working at Uniroyal on third shift, 12 hours a day, six and seven days a week, so not much date time, but I made it work," Randy said.

She did and said, 'I do,' and two became four when their daughter, Jamie, and son, Kirk, were born. Despite their full-time jobs, the family bonded as their spare time filled up with sports and time at the lake. Like today, the calendar bulged with destinations, games, tournaments, camping, and time with Randy and Wina's parents. It's what they did, and it's what they do.

As Jamie and Kirk became parents, they began to understand the true meaning of family.

"When I think of the definition of family, I believe our family is a perfect example. Growing up, our parents and grandparents were always there for us," said Jamie.
"They didn't miss anything. They were very
devoted to [everything] we wanted to do
and did it with love and eagerness. That's
what I value most about our family. We
always have each other's backs in any
stage of life, from growing up to becoming

parents ourselves."

"The thing that stands out to me the most from my childhood and what I think back on when raising my kids," said Kirk, "is that my parents were always there in the middle of everything: fundraising, coaching, leading by example, and from the front. Whatever it took, they made it happen. I think it's equally as rare that each member of our family is also each other's best friend. That's something I'm most proud of."

Jamie said, "I have so many great childhood memories, but one of my most valued memories is when my dad and I got baptized together. You could always count on my mom to get us to church anytime the

doors were opened, and I think that played a huge role in our lives and taught us true morals and values."

When the grandchildren came along, the love and the memories multiplied again.

"I just love watching them do anything and everything they love to do, whether it be sports, acting silly, dancing, laughing — whatever they love to do," said Wina. "I love collecting special treats for them, too."

Parenting is more stressful than grandparenting, as most grandparents know. But Randy and Wina made room in their stressful lives for their children, which is shared today with their grandchildren.

"You just don't seem to have as much time with your children when you're a father. That's the reason I coached Jamie in softball and Kirk in baseball and went to the lake on weekends when we weren't in a baseball or soccer tournament so that I could spend quality time with them," Randy said. "As their Peepaw, I have the most beautiful and athletic grandbabies you could wish for, with another one on the way. They will steal your heart. Grammy and I spoil them and send them home!"

What's the square root of Reynolds family math?

"When I think of my grandparents, I think of all the memories we made at their house, and I try to do the same for them," said Wina. "It was mainly around the table eating dinner or lunch, which is why it's so important for me because I come from a family of really good cooks. I guess our love language is food. I hope they always remember how much love I put into the food just for them. And I hope they remember this and pass it on to their children."

The thread of faith is woven throughout the family's story, a golden cord in a tapestry of love.

Wina said, "Both of my children and three of my grandchildren have been baptized. My hope is that they all know that





A Randy Reynolds, Dawson Reynolds, Kylan Reynolds, Lorene Reynolds, Jean Coursey, Adalynn Harris, Baker Reynolds, Edwina Reynolds, Amanda Davis, Kirk Reynolds, Kyler Doak, Lathan Doak, Joel Doak, Slayleigh Doak, Nate Doak, and Jamie Doak

God and Jesus love them, know where they came from, and know who they go to when they have troubles. We talk a lot about prayer around here, so I hope they keep the faith instilled in them for the rest of their lives."

As they leave family dinner each week, one by one, they stop to hug and kiss Grammy goodbye. They take the love of family wherever they go, drawing on it when needed, like a sizeable bank account left by a dear

relative, and depositing more into it with every breath.

Randy said, "We raised a beautiful family together that I wouldn't trade for anything in the world. To all my babies, Peepaw loves you!" GN





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Discover cozy and delicious recipes to brighten your day

By Tina Neeley

T'S TIME for embracing warmth, love, and the joy of sharing delicious meals with those closest to our hearts. As we endure the lingering winter days, here's a selection of recipes filled with heartfelt comfort. From delightful treats perfect for celebrating Valentine's Day to nourishing dishes that evoke feelings of love and togetherness, indulge in the flavors that bring people together and create lasting memories. Join us as we celebrate from the heart. **GN**



Turtle Cheesecake

Submitted by Tammie Thorpe

11/2 c. chocolate wafer cookies, crushed

3 T. butter, melted

2 pkgs. cream cheese, 8 oz., softened

1/2 c. sugar

1 t. vanilla

2 eggs, room temperature

1/2 c. chocolate chips

1/2 c. pecans, chopped

1/2 c. caramel ice cream topping

In a medium mixing bowl, mix wafers and butter. Press into the bottom of a 9" pie pan. In a large mixing bowl, stir cream cheese until smooth. Stir in sugar and vanilla. Add eggs one at a time. Mix until batter is smooth. Pour mix into pie crust. Bake at 325° for 40 minutes or until slightly brown. Let cheesecake cool. While cake is baking, combine chocolate chips, pecans, and caramel topping in a medium bowl. When cake has baked, gently spread mixture over top of cake. Place in refrigerator until cool.

Death by Chocolate

Submitted by Lisa Scott

2 pkgs. chocolate mousse mix
1 lg. pkg. whipped topping
1 pan baked brownies
¼ c. Kahlua®
8 Heath® bars, crushed
1 c. pecans, chopped

Prepare chocolate mousse as directed. Fold whipped topping into mousse and set aside. Crumble ½ of the brownies into a 9x13 baking dish. Sprinkle Kahlua® over brownies. Sprinkle ½ of the Heath® bars and the pecans over the brownies. Spread ½ chocolate mousse on top. Layer remaining brownies, Heath® bars, and mousse. Chill before serving.

The Ultimate Chocolate Chip Cookies

Submitted by Rose Hamner

11/2 c. shortening

2 1/2 c. brown sugar

4 T. milk

2 t. vanilla

2 eggs

3 1/2 c. AP flour

2 t. salt

1 1/2 t. baking soda

1 bag chocolate chips

2 c. pecan pieces

In a large mixing bowl, beat shortening and brown sugar. Add milk, vanilla, and eggs. In a medium mixing bowl, sift together flour, salt, and baking soda. Add to the creamed mixture. Stir in chocolate chips and pecan pieces. Drop by spoonfuls onto a greased cookie sheet. Bake at 350° for 8-10 minutes.

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

Tiny Temptations with MAJOR FLAVOR



From time to time, Nenitas Delicias pops up throughout town and proves that good things come in small packages.



Good News is coming to dinner!

We will feature a local food critic's thoughts as he dines in Bedford County. This month Colby Prince visited Nenitas Delicias.

Nenitas Delicias

1014 Madison St. Shelbyville, TN

Follow their Facebook by searching for Los Hermanos Mexican Grill #4

'VE KEPT my eyes on Nenitas Delicias for quite a while now and was lucky enough to catch them for lunch one day. The star of my visit was undoubtedly the miniature pancakes adorned with brownie bits, drizzled with rich chocolate syrup, and crowned with velvety whipped cream. These bite-sized wonders redefine indulgence, merging the comforting familiarity of pancakes with the decadence of brownies. The mixture of textures, from the fluffy pancakes to the fudgy brownie bits, created a symphony in my mouth. I know they say to save dessert for last, but I had to be a rule-breaker for the mini pancakes.

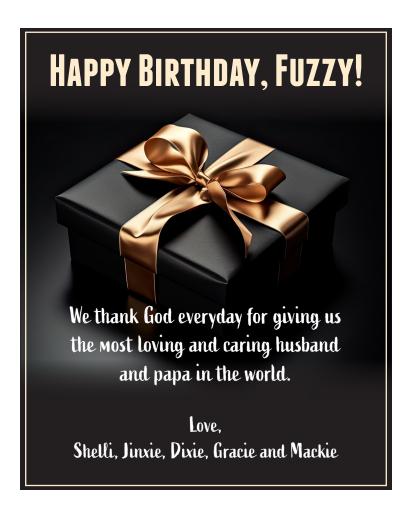
The Pink Drink, a refreshing Strawberry Agua Fresca, accompanied this sweet symphony. Vibrant and quenching, this concoction perfectly complemented the richness of the pancakes. The taste was reminiscent of a strawberry milkshake but in the form of a drink. The natural sweetness of ripe strawberries blended seamlessly and

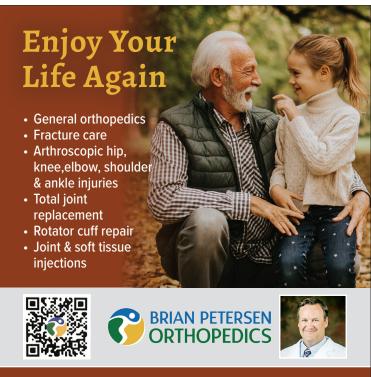
created a beverage that embodied the essence of a summer day in every sip.

Having had enough sweets, I needed something more savory for the perfect balance. I ventured further into Nenitas Delicias' diverse menu and tried the chicken street tacos. A nod to authentic street food, these tacos showcased succulent and well-seasoned chicken nestled in warm tortillas. The combination of flavors from the tender chicken, fresh cheese topping, a squeeze of lime, and a big dip in spicy sauce made each taco a savory masterpiece.

Nenitas Delicias is a haven for those seeking a fresh, new experience. From the delightful miniature pancakes to the refreshing allure of strawberry agua fresca and the savory perfection of chicken street tacos, every dish is a testament to the artistry and passion that defines this gem of a food truck here in Shelbyville. Prepare to be enchanted by the extraordinary world of flavors that Nenitas Delicias unfolds with each meticulously crafted bite. GN







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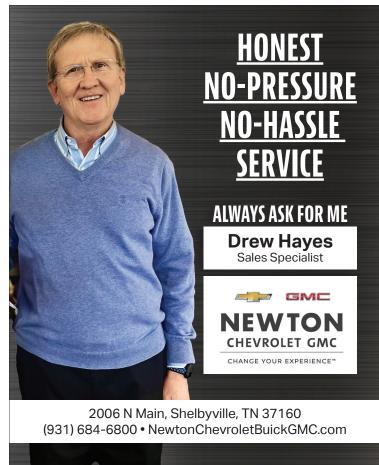
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CHAPTER 2 OF 3

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

- 40 From the Heart
- 42 Chapters from a life of love
- We are the Pitners
- 52 From reel to reality

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



goodnewsmags.com

Photography by Ashleigh Newnes

◀ Tabby and Robert Stem

From the Heart

HE CONNECTION between humans — we call it love — is a profoundly beautiful thing. Our Creator built us to have different types of love. The Greek words for the three types are eros, agape, and philio.

Eros is the passionate and romantic love we often think of when picturing two people sharing an intimate bond. It's full of emotion, desire, and longing, and people find it every day.

Agape love is a love that is unconditional and selfless. It's love without expectation or demand, often seen among family members and friends who care deeply for one another.

Philio love is the love of friendship and community. It's about shared experiences and mutual understanding. We often see this type of love in close-knit groups of people who have a deep connection — just like Shelbyville.

No matter what type of love you experience, it's an essential part of the human experience. Love and connection bring us closer together, allowing us to share life's highs and lows with those we care about most. Good News is happy to share these one-of-a-kind stories from the heart. **GN**





Chapters From a Life of Love

Ed and Joan Gray fill their life with family, education, and travel.

By Tina Neeley Photography by Ashleigh Newnes and submitted by Joan Gray

ORTY YEARS ago, Ed and Joan Gray signed up for the journey of a lifetime. From navigating the early challenges of blending families to exploring the world of education and later venturing on global travels, the Grays have covered the immeasurable territory of their lives, turning every chapter into a captivating tale of shared experiences and boundless love. They prioritize making memories together and with their ever-growing family, following an itinerary of their passion for life.

With four adult children, 10 grandchildren, four of whom are married, and six great-grandchildren with the seventh on the way, to say the Grays have a large family is like saying the Grand Canyon is just a simple crack in the earth's crust. They happily shuttle their grands and great-grands every chance they get, and their home is the weekend family destination.

"Our family means so much to us," said Joan. "Our house is large, and we have a swimming pool and 15 acres, so it's where everybody comes on weekends. Much of the time, we'll have 20 to 30 children and adults, or sometimes, just the younger kids will be here swimming. We have almost all of our family celebrations here.

Education is also an important factor in Ed and Joan's lives. So much so that they made it their mutual lifetime careers, beginning as teachers and then as educational administrators. Joan was an English teacher for 35 years and then director of technology and secondary instructional



supervisor for 10 years before retirement. Ed progressed from teacher to principal, to supervisor, to assistant superintendent, and finally to superintendent of Bedford County Schools. Both retired in 2011 with 45 years of experience each, and Joan went on to work part-time as executive director of the Tennessee Educational Technology Association until 2020.

Ed and Joan loved working with students and fellow teachers. Joan reflects, "When Ed was principal at Community, a K-12 school in the same building, he could walk down the halls and call almost every student by name. The little kindergarten students would come up to him, hug him, and grab his leg in the hall. He's a very laidback person — a good listener and a caring educator. Ed was Mike Bone's assistant superintendent, and they were a great team that did so much for education in Bedford County together. Learning Way, Harris, and Community High School were built while they were there, and Central High School was renovated. When Mike retired, Ed carried on the traditions that together they had set forth. Ed and Mike were a powerful tag team as superintendents of Bedford County Schools."

Ed said, "Joan taught in three different school systems: Marshall County, Giles County, and Bedford County. She was selected as Teacher of the Year for the school system in all three counties."

While serving as chairman of the State Teachers' Study Council, Joan worked for a year with Lamar Alexander and his Career Ladder System in the mid-1980s and traveled the country that year, speaking to other states about the innovations in education in Tennessee.

Retirement made room for travel in the lives of both Ed and Joan. A map of the world on their wall pinpoints the destinations that have been the settings for this chapter of their lives. The stories and books Joan taught for so many years in her English classroom come to life as they visit places worldwide.

"I love books. I was a senior English teacher, so I had taught British literature, and one of the first places we went after retirement was England. We visited Canterbury, the setting for Chaucer's works, and Exeter, where King Arthur was supposedly buried, and the Lake District, where Wordsworth lived at Grassmere and wrote so many of his poems and where Beatrice Potter wrote her children's books, which included "The Tales of Peter Rabbit." Traveling there was just wonderful because I had taught this literature for 35 years," said Joan.

They've explored the world through different avenues.

"We love to travel, and we've traveled basically all over the world. We've taken cruises and tours, and we've gone on our own," said Joan. "The only areas we have



not traveled are in the Far East — Japan, China, Vietnam, etc."

Ed expresses that he and Joan are very blessed still to have each other and such a loving family. "We have been fortunate to have had the opportunities we have had in our 80 years of life."

While they've covered a lot of ground, there's still more to be experienced. Although Ed has had several health situations that have slowed them down some, they are still traveling and enjoying the places they visit. They recently returned from trips to the Bahamas and the Northwest region of the United States, and they frequently spend time on the Alabama coast.

Their lives are a travel memoir — a 40-year adventure fueled by their love for each other, their family, education, and exploration. The blank pages are yet to be filled with more experienced and treasured moments. With a destination of both home and the world, their hearts are united, stitched together with the love of family.

That's the journey of a lifetime. GN





We are the Pitners

Continuing a legacy of love.

By Tina Neeley Photography by Ashleigh Newnes IFE WITHOUT someone who's always been there is not just hard. "It's just weird. That's the only word I can say when people ask me about it. It's just the strangest thing," said Mary Pitner.

This 'thing' is her world without her husband, Allen Pitner, a presence in her life since second grade. They went to elementary, junior high, and high school together. They attended Sunday school together and were both at the University of Tennessee. However, Mary transferred back to Middle Tennessee State University.

"We've always been friends. We'd never dated, but we were always friends," she said.

Mary's decision to accept a position as a nanny to the children of then-Senator Al Gore and his wife, Tipper, prompted a move to Washington, D.C., and suddenly Allen was considering life without someone who'd always been there.

"Allen contacted me and said it was almost like I'd always been there, but then I wasn't going to be there. So we got together before I left and spent some time together, then went out to dinner and just talked," Mary said. "He proposed to me in Washington one week, and we got married the next November. We've been together since then until he went for a walk last Aug. 1."

Mary glimpsed the passing flare of orange from the UT shirt he always wore on their walks, signaling his return, but decided to finish a TV show on their back porch. When she went inside, she found him looking as he had countless times, asleep with his arm on the back of the couch. But unlike those countless times, he didn't stir when she



tried to wake him. And just like that, the one who'd always been there was gone.

Mary said, "Every single day, he did something nice for me. I knew he did those things for me, but until he was not here anymore, I truly did not realize everything he did for me. And I hope he knows how grateful I am for that. I think he does."

First her friend, then her partner — they were the Pitners. They added their children, Mike and Martha, and the Pitners grew to four.

"It was always, 'Let's go to the Pitners,' or 'The Pitners are coming.' If we had friends over, it was for Pitner parties. People would congregate with us. I miss that. I've not just lost my partner, but my friend," she said.

It's a loss felt by Allen's family, friends, and the community he served all his life.

From his first job in civil engineering in Nashville to returning home to help in the family business, Economy Pen & Pencil Company, to his careers in community service as the chief executive officer of the Shelbyville-Bedford County Chamber of Commerce and membership director for the South Central Tennessee Tourism Association, Allen put others ahead of himself in all he did.

"I never saw him do anything self-serving, ever. He wanted to do all he could to make his community better. That's just what he did and what we did as a couple, and that's how we raised our children. Your skin color, religion, ethnicity — none of that mattered to Allen, and it didn't matter to me. Both of our parents brought us up that way. If I die right now, I will be the most proud [of successfully teaching] our children they need to give back, help others, and be accepting of everyone."

The Pitners will forever cherish Big Al's memory, carrying him along on family vacations, through their holidays, celebrations, and Pitner parties. They will honor him by continuing to care for others in their communities, making the most of opportunities to give back on his birthday and holidays.

And of all things, Mary does not want to miss the good God brings into her life as she grieves.

"I'm slowly learning that grief changes you, and I want to be sure it changes me in a positive way. You always hear it's different for everybody, and oh my goodness, it is different for everybody because everybody's lost a different person in a different kind of relationship. However you grieve is right for you. Grief is such a big thing that we don't like to talk about because it's not pleasant," she said. "But for me, Allen's death, although it's an awful, terrible thing, and he's going to be missed, makes my family realize and appreciate him for everything he did for us. It makes my friends realize and appreciate everything that he did. And I hope our community will look back and see how he made Shelbyville a better place."

Count your blessings as you recognize that life is not weird today because the person who's always been there is still here. Make life better for another person. Tell them you're with the Pitners. **GN**





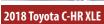




























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29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					

Jan. 1 New Year's Day - Closed

Jan. 15 MLK Day - Closed

Feb. 19 Presidents' Day - Closed

Mar. 29 Good Friday - Closed

May 27 Memorial Day - Closed

Jun. 19 Juneteenth - Closed

July 4 Independence Day - Closed

Sept. 2 Labor Day - Closed

Nov. 11 Veterans Day - Closed

Nov. 28 Thanksgiving Day - Closed

Nov. 29 Thanksgiving Holiday - Closed

Dec. 24 Christmas Holiday - Closed

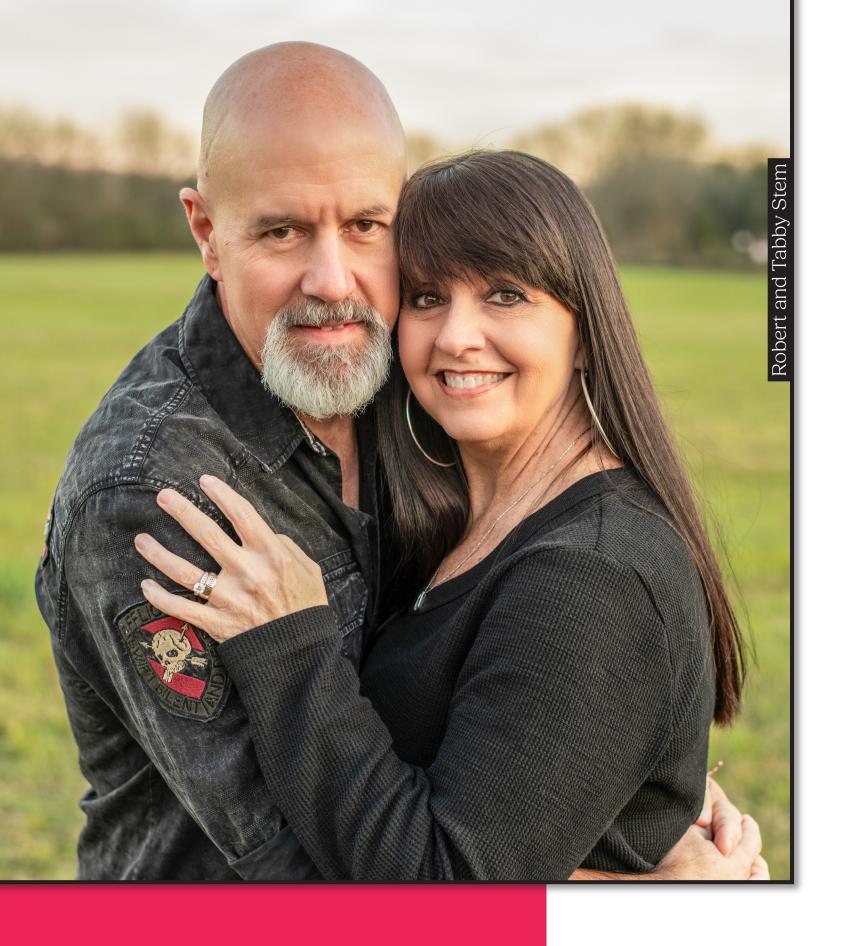
Dec. 25 Christmas Holiday - Closed

Dec. 26 Christmas Holiday - Closed

Dec. 31 New Years Eve - Closed

Jan. 1, 2024 New Years Day - Closed

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (931) 684-4651



From Reel to Reality



Robert and Tabby Stem know they have something special.

By Tina Neeley Photography by Ashleigh Newnes

OME BELIEVE it doesn't exist; others think it might but believe they'll never experience it. Some believe it exists only in Hallmark movies and chick-lit novels. You know how it goes.

Curled up on the couch with a crack-ling fire under your favorite fuzzy throw, the screen flickers, casting a glow on Ben & Jerry's chocolate therapy. You're hoping they'll get together as they navigate emotions that have caught them off-guard. They connect through their shared values and dreams, but just as things start falling into place, conflicts arise, leaving the future of their relationship hanging in uncertainty. The thrill of hope and the sweetness of a happy ending leave you with a satisfied smile and a warm feeling in your heart.

But this isn't a movie; it's Robert and Tabby Stem's story, and many call it what it is — true love. Like the Hallmark movies, theirs is a heartwarming story centered around romance and family. Unlike those movies, grief and loss are real, and a series of events fill their days that continuously prove how they complete one another.

Their story opens in Shelbyville with Robert and Tabby working in the Big Springs Shopping Center businesses in the late '90s. When time allowed and their paths crossed, they forged a friendship over shared interests, swapping life updates and stories along the way.

Tabby played the role of the hardworking protagonist, opening her own business in June 2000. The odds were stacked higher

than the reams of paper in The Express supply room against the single mom of three and her business that offered copy and fax services to the general public. Soon, Robert and Tabby's life circumstances changed, and romance sparked, complementing their solid friendship. Marriage followed, and the change in the lives of Tabby and her three children was immediate and overwhelmingly positive.

"When we married in May of 2003, it was the happiest day of our lives. And I mean all of our lives. Brock and Robert connected instantly through their love of music. Lauren and Paisley were intrigued but cautious. Robert came into our family amid chaos and settled the storm. We were all so happy," said Tabby.



In cinematic timing, everything changed.

"Brock wrote a poem about how Robert completed all of us in December 2003," she said. "Little did we know that in January of 2004, we would lose our precious Brock forever in a snow skiing youth trip with a local church. On that day and every day since, Robert has literally carried us and held us up as a family."

Being present for Tabby and the girls is as natural as breathing for Robert. He said, "It goes back to my childhood. I want to give them what I didn't have, and that's just unconditional love."

Some feared the worst for the couple, pointing out that many marriages collapse around the loss of a child. Her business was equally vulnerable.

"Robert supported me through everything. It was sketchy as to whether I would make it through Brock's death as a fairly new business owner, but with the support of family and a very thoughtful banker who gave me a few months to get back on my feet, we survived and even thrived,"Tabby said.

She was thriving like many lead characters in the movies we love, pulled in too many directions. With Robert's blessing, Tabby purchased a gym and became a fitness instructor, was active in local theatre productions both on stage and behind the curtain, and held positions on various boards, all fueled by her commitment to giving her best to her community and a desire to challenge herself.

She sold the gym but continued to lead fitness classes at the Shelbyville Recreation Center. Preparation for the onehour class on top of work at The Express and her other outside activities filled most of her waking hours. Robert, her true prince charming, worked quietly beside her and held down the fort with family. He was happy for every minute he spent with her but longed for more.

Tabby said, "I'm so guilty of doing things just because I can or because someone asked me to. Maybe I always felt like I had to prove that I was better than what people thought of me. But I just kept on [saying yes], and all of a sudden, Robert said, 'I remember when it was just us working and doing everything together. I want my wife back.' And it hit me like, What am I doing? So after that, I pulled back, and now we're focusing solely on business and each other."

Not everyone understands.

Robert said, "There have been customers who come in and ask, 'How do you work together every day?' For me, there's no other place I'd rather be. I want to be by her side every day. Tabby is not just my wife; she's my best friend. She's everything. I just want to be with her all the time."

"I don't think I realized how much time I was taking away from him. He's always been there, making me feel safe and secure. He wanted to see me do all the things I always wanted to do," Tabby said. 'He wants to see me happy. But maybe that wasn't

what was truly making me happy. I was searching, doing things I really loved, but it was just too much."

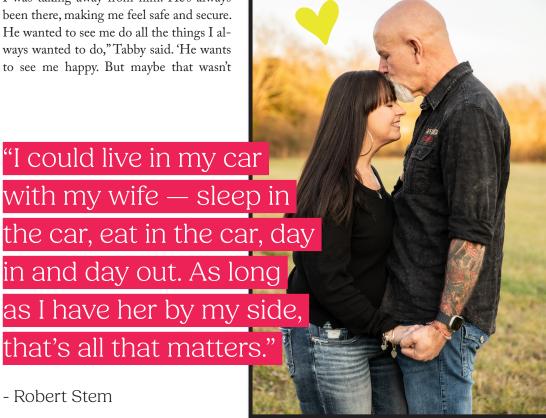
It's a love that's still breathtaking.

"I think my favorite thing about him is his kindness and the way he loves me. That love is like nothing I've ever experienced before," she said. "He looks like a tough guy, but he's the most gentle, kind, loving man I have ever met in my whole life."

And Robert's favorite thing about Tabby? "She constantly wants to see other people happy, and I love that about her," he said.

They know their story is unique.

"We don't take this love for granted; we know this is special, and we're lucky. A lot of people don't have this," said Tabby. GN



- Robert Stem







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How the Good News Magic Happens: From Submission to Print

How does a story get into Good News Magazine?

Nominate someone to be featured in Good News Magazine.

Since Good News launched, we have received hundreds of nominations for people to be covered. Ever wondered how a story finds its way into the pages of our magazine? Well, the answer is simple: it's all thanks to you! Not only are the stories about local people, but they come from other local people, too! Here's a glimpse into the journey of how stories come alive in Good News Magazine.



Step 1: The submission process: goodnewsmags.com

We believe that everyone has a story worth sharing, and we rely on our readers to help us discover these extraordinary individuals. Submissions are made through our website and include the following details:

- A nominee's name
- Contact information (phone and email)
- The reason for the submission, along with why they qualify as a "Good News" story. This may include their contributions to the community, impactful deeds, family life, occupation, and more.
- We're not looking for you to write the story or find a superstar. We believe everyone has a story, and we only need relevant information. Our writers will do the rest!

Step 2: Selection and theme assignment

We tell stories about local people and what they are doing to make a difference. We have told stories about charities, medical staff, volunteers, school staff, and your next-door neighbor. Again, everyone has a story. While we feature six remarkable individuals in each issue, keep in mind that our production schedule is planned months in advance. So, if someone isn't featured in the upcoming issue, there's still a chance they'll be highlighted in the future. We keep all submissions on file for potential use.

Step 3: Interviews and photo shoots

Once a story is selected, our talented writers and photographers swing into action. We continue to be inspired by the stories submitted to us, and we complete the interviews and photo shoots several months before the issue goes to print. Our writers may conduct interviews via phone or video chat, while others prefer in-person meetings with the individuals behind the stories.



What's next in Good News Magazine?

Currently, our dedicated team of magazine writers and editors is hard at work crafting stories under themes like "Charity Spotlight," "The Learning Curve," and "Shop Local." We are excited to announce the next theme needing story submissions is "Independence."

What we seek in Independence stories:

We are looking for local veterans in our community who are willing to share their stories. Do you know a veteran in your community who faced and overcame challenges? Or veterans who now use their experience to assist others? Or, you might know of charities led by veterans that positively impact the community. We're looking to highlight such veterans and their inspiring stories in our upcoming Independence issue.

Do you know someone who deserves to be in Good News Magazine?

Let us know with a submission at www.GoodNewsMags.com or scan the QR code. Share your stories with us, and let's continue spreading the Good News together.







CHAPTER 3 OF 3

This section of the magazine covers local things to do.

- 64 Community Events
- 72 Events Calendar
- 74 Advertiser Index

Submit a positive story on our website:



goodnewsmags.com

Photography by Ashleigh Newnes

◀ Mike Jones and Will Prater

The Christmas Star - Dec. 14





Photography by Ashleigh Newnes

On Dec. 14, 2023 the Shelbyville-Bedford County Public Library hosted "The Christmas Star - An Astronomer's Journey" conducted by Billy Hix at The Fly Arts Center. Hix presented this program based on a scientific search for the Star of Bethlehem using historical documents and computer simulations.



 Sheri, Leah, and Emma Hise
 Ashley Davenport, Kaylie Bussell, and Karen Bogle
 Billy Hix
 Issac and Anna Pitts





Cathy Hayes, Betty Joyce Hulan, Dot Bates, and Katie Hawkins
 Nicki Wall, Becky Staton, Anita Mehaffey, and Shelli Mehaffey







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December's Third Thursday - Dec. 21





TENNESSEE © FLIGHT TRAINING

Photography by Ashleigh Newnes

On Dec. 21, 2023, the Shelbyville Chamber of Commerce and the Shelbyville-Bedford Partnership hosted another successful Third Thursday Networking event at the Fly Arts Center.



Nancy June, Lynette and Brandon Favor
 Wendy Taylor and Ben Mullen
 Mari Kay and Eddie Faulk
 Beth Davis and Mandy Mitchell





Hannah Faulkner and Mandy Mitchell
 Carlos Castro, Dylan Whitaker, and Charlie Williams

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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.



EVENTS CALENDAR

February 2

7:30 pm Lonestar Rodeo

Cooper Steel Arena 21 Whitthorne St. Shelbyville

Community members have the opportunity to come enjoy one of the many horse competitions taking place throughout the year in Shelbyville.

8:00 pm JFB Live at Penalties Sports Bar & Grill

Penalties Sports Bar & Grilll 1731 N. Main St. Shelbyville

JFB is a popular band in the community and neighbors are invited to see them live.

February 9

9:00 pm Daddy-Daughter Sock Hop

Shelbyville Recreation Center 220 Tulip Tree Rd. Shelbyville

Girls ages 4-14 can dance the night away with their dads or any male role-model. Preregistration is required.

February 10

10:00 am Valentines Market at the Mall

Bradley Square Mall 200 Paul Huff Pkwy NW Cleveland

This is a Shopping event with over 100 vendors, inflatables, a petting zoo, pony rides, and more for the community to enjoy.





February 17

6:00 pm Joseph Habedank's 2024 Winter Tour Concert

Edgemont Baptist Church 150 Fairfield Pike Shelbyville

Enjoy music from twotime Grammy-nominated and Dove award-winning Southern Gospel Artist of the Year, Joseph Habedank. Purchase tickets online.

February 24

11:00 am Third Annual Miss Southern Sweetheart Pageant

University of Tennessee Space Institute 411 B H Goethert Pkwy. Tullahoma

The community is welcome to watch. Door admission fee of \$5 (free for those under age 10), and each contestant receives one free admission.

For more events and to submit an event visit:

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





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