

DEB SCHROEDER

STILL ANSWERING THE CALL

Her lifetime of service has been shaped by sacrifice, faith, and the quiet strength to keep going.

PLUS:

HONORING LINCOLN COUNTY'S FALLEN

LANDOFTHE

ISSUE 7 2025

A PUBLICATION OF EXCHANGE MEDIA GROUP

Preserve the moments that made you.





Peach cobbler in the oven. Fans humming. Laughter that carries through screen doors.

Good News Magazine captures the spirit of a Tennessee summer — one true story at a time.

Subscribe today at www.goodnewsmags.com/subscribe/

Good News



Full Service Jewelry Repair

www.sabghijewelers.com



Blue Ocean Pools and Patios

(256) 510-1094 - blueoceanpools.net





(256) 975-0529 - Mon-Fri: 7:30 AM - 3:30 PM

fivestarlawnandlandscaping.com



Home Health Services

- Skilled Nursing
- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Therapy

Private Duty Services

- Skilled Nursing (Hourly)
- Personal Care Services



Call Us Today: 931-438-9595

2310 Thornton Taylor Pkwy Ste A - Fax: 931-438-9549 - qualityfirsthc.com





LEASE FOR \$443 PER MONTH!*



LOWEST PAYMENTS, BEST SELECTION

NEW Chevys



NEW Jeeps



Pre-Owned



Chevrolet Buick GMC

Sales: (931) 455-3451 Service: (877) 427-5222

Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram

Sales: (931) 408-9662 Service: (931) 408-9671 StanMcNabbChevy.com and StanMcNabbCDJR.com!



















TABLE OF CONTENTS

ISSUE 7 2025

LETTER FROM 10 THE EDITOR:

Land of the Brave

Good Living

DARION GEORGE: 14 CASTING MEMORIES THAT LAST

A Walmart casting contest sparked Lincoln County's beloved Free Fishing Day and Senior Rodeo tradition.

NO VETERAN 20 STANDS ALONE

The Lifeline Warrior Foundation is proving that brotherhood doesn't end with service.

SAVOR SUMMER'S 26 EASY LIVING

Family and friends sweeten the season





"GOOD NEWS MAGAZINE" is published monthly by Exchange Media Group Inc., 404 Main Avenue S, Fayetteville, Tennessee 37334. Periodicals postage pending Fayetteville, TN Post Office. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Exchange Media Group, P.O. Box 490, Fayetteville, TN 37334





Good Stories

30 DEB SCHROEDER: STILL ANSWERING THE CALL

Her lifetime of service has been shaped by sacrifice, faith, and the quiet strength to keep going.

34 SAM SMILEY: FROM PATROLS TO PURPOSE

After 22 years in law enforcement, he found unexpected meaning mentoring Lincoln County students through D.A.R.E.

38 ANITA ASHWORTH: HONORING LINCOLN COUNTY'S FALLEN

Her research brings World War II heroes' stories to life through the Stories Behind the Stars project.

Good Times

- **42** COMMUNITY EVENTS
- **44** CHARITY LISTINGS
- 46 ADVERTISER INDEX



Your family and friends can be in this magazine.

Get your family and friends in our local magazine that covers only positive stories.



Submit your family and friends online

goodnewsmags.com/submit-a-story/





- Physical, Speech, Occupational & Respiratory Therapies
- Unit Specializing in Dementia Care
- Specializing in Skilled & Long Term Care
- Nursing
- Specialized Diets
- Activities
- Social Services
- Free Wi-Fi



4081 Thornton Taylor Pkwy. Fayetteville, TN 37334

931-433-9973

Administrator - Lisa Veteto Director of Admissions - Jennifer Mitchell

faymark@twinrivershc.com elkriverhroffayetteville.com



We Help When Others Won't

931-680-1400 www.heritagesouth.org

Insured by NCUA | Equal Housing Lender





Mundy Home Center, Inc.

3606 Memorial Pkwy SW, Huntsville **256-880-8484**

Shop now at mundyhomecenter.com

Richardson Waste Removal & Richardson Waste Solution

Weekly Service

Residential • Commercial • Industrial

Roll-Off Containers

Construction • Demo Debris • Commercial Industrial • General Clean-Up



Quality service since 1963 Our Business is Picking Up!

931-433-6634

Ask about automatic payment richardsonwaste@gmail.com

Do you struggle with hurts, pain, or addiction of any kind?

- Are you an adult child of an alcoholic or an abuse survivor?
- Do you struggle with anxiety, co-dependency, anger or fear?
- Are you addicted to gambling, food, sex, substances or pornography?

Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered, non-denominational, 12 step recovery program.

CR meets every Tuesday, 5:30-8pm.

Supper provided and childcare is available upon request.

CR

Fayetteville First UMC - 200 Elk Ave N. - (931)433-2251



Take the highs & lows out of your monthly utility bill.

Budget Billing is a free service offered by Fayetteville Public Utilities to make it easier for customers to budget energy costs each month by leveling out the bill fluctuations that come from seasonal changes.

Give FPU a call at 931-433-1522 to make your monthly electric and natural gas costs more consistent.









LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Land of the Brave

Celebrating veterans who watch over us from sea to shining sea.

F YOU'VE ever seen a fighter jet cut across the sky, you know what powerful looks like. You know what freedom sounds like. That roar overhead reminds us that we live in a country where people put their lives on the line so the rest of us can live without fear. They fly above land and sea, from coast to coast, from sea to shining sea, watching over the red, white, and blue.

This issue of Good News is dedicated to the brave — the ones who stepped forward when they didn't have to. Who negotiated peace with strength. Who shook hands with people they never met and still called them "brother." Who boarded boats and planes and tanks and flew into danger because protection is a calling of duty.

We salute our veterans not just for what they did but for what they made possible. Civility. Progress. A world where we can disagree and still shake hands at the end of the day. That handshake is not weakness. It's quite the opposite.

Independence isn't handed out. It's fought for. And the people who have worn the uniform, our veterans, carry that story everywhere they go. They are the reason the Stars and Stripes still wave. They are the reason we can gather around dinner tables, build businesses, fall in love, and sleep through the night without fear of bombs above or boots at the door.

Sometimes, honoring them means telling their stories. Sometimes it means listening. And sometimes it's as simple as standing still, hand on heart, letting the wind catch the flag on a clear day, and knowing you are lucky to live here.

This is the Land of the Brave. GN

From our publishing partner



"I'm proud to serve as a Publishing Partner for Good News Magazine in the community I grew up in. Having deep roots in this area, I'm passionate about sharing the positive stories, local highlights, and growing establishments that make our town special."

Brooke Snyder Publishing Partner (931) 205-0640 brooke@goodnewsmags.com

What do you think about the magazine?



Scan with your smartphone's camera.

Do you enjoy Good News? Let us know what you think! Follow us and leave a review on Facebook. Search Good News Fayetteville or send a letter to the editor: goodnews@goodnewsmags.com

Good News

PUBLISHING PARTNER Brooke Snyder
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Wesley Bryant
REGIONAL PUBLISHER Jack Owens
LEAD LAYOUT ARTIST Brianna Brubaker
SENIOR LAYOUT ARTIST Melissa Davis
LAYOUT ARTIST BEN Adams
LEAD PRINT AD DESIGNER Todd Pitts
LEAD PHOTOGRAPHER Ashleigh Newnes
FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHERS Robin Holcomb,
Streye Zak Brooke Snyder

FREELANCE WRITERS Amanda West, Becca Roberts, Gabriel Huff,
Jeriah Brumfield, Kali Bradford, Rachael Smith, Sara Hook, Haley Potter
QUALITY ANALYST Kaitlin Haithcoat
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT Tony Glenn, Kevin Hines,
Janet Mullins, Sissy Smith, Sandra Thomas

Subscribe to Good News on www.GoodNewsMags.com or call (800) 247-7318

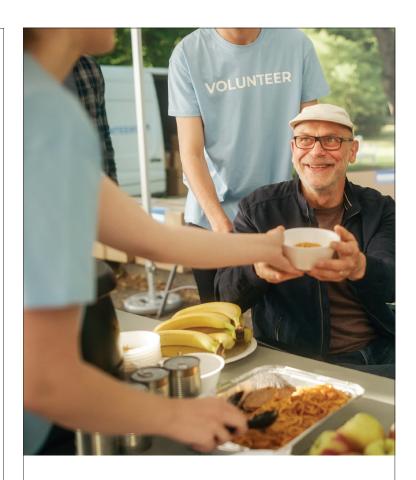
GOOD NEWS IS PUBLISHED BY Exchange Media Group, Inc. **FOUNDER** Bill Thomas (1940-2010)

PRESIDENT / CEO Will Thomas
DIRECTOR OF MAGAZINES Katie McNabb
VP OF MARKETING Gabby Denny
HUMAN RESOURCES AND FINANCE Tracey Pollock
SR. OPERATIONS COORDINATOR Barb Hargrove
CLIENT SERVICES COORDINATOR Shelli Fuller
DIGITAL DESIGN DIRECTOR Clinton George

P.O. Box 490, Fayetteville, TN 37334 | (800) 247-7318 | exchange-inc.com

Art work or other copy submitted for publication is considered to be the property of the advertiser. Advertising is accepted with the understanding that all liability for copyright violation is the sole responsibility of the advertiser. Exchange Media Group will make every effort to see that advertising copy is correctly printed, but shall not be liable for failure to publish an ad or for typographical errors. The advertiser assumes full liability for his/her advertisements and agrees to hold Exchange Media Group unaccountable for the content of all advertisements authorized for publication and any claims that may be made against the Exchange Media Group. Exchange Media Group will gladly reprint, without charge, that part of an advertisement in which an error occurs, provided a claim is made within three (3) days of the first publication of the ad. Exchange Media Group will not knowingly accept any advertisement that is defamatory, promotes academic dishonesty, violates any federal, state or local laws or encourages discrimination against any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, sexual orientation, color, creed, religion, national origin or disability. Exchange Media Group reserves the right to reject ads considered distasteful or defamatory. All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination. Exchange Media Group will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

© 2025 Exchange Media Group, Inc. All Rights Reserved.



Only positive and local stories at your door every month.

Get a local magazine that covers only positive stories about everyday people in our community.



Subscribe to Good News Magazine online

goodnewsmags.com/subscribe/





HH Lincoln Health is proud to offer a variety of FREE or DISCOUNTED screening and education opportunities. Take advantage of these specials and be proactive with your health care needs.

Screenings Offered:

(\$130 Self Pay) July: Vascular Screening

(No charge) August: Hemoglobin A1C Screening

(No charge) September: PSA -

Prostate Blood Screening

(\$100 Self Pay) October: Mammograms

(\$75 Self Pay) November: Low-Dose Lung Scan

For more information and to schedule an appointment

please call: (931) 438-7494

hhlincolnhealth.org 0 106 Medical Center Blvd. Fayetteville, TN 37334





Looking for a new place?

Oakview Apartments currently has:

- 2 Bedroom Apartments w/Washer-Dryer Connection
- 1 Bedroom Apartments Spacious Energy Efficient
- Total Electric Kitchens & Energy Efficient Appliances
- Dishwasher & Washer/Dryer Hook-Ups Available
- Walk In Closet Onsite Laundry Room
- Handicap Units When Available
- Pet Friendly Some Restrictions Apply

 1 BR Starting @ \$550-\$585 2 BR Starting @ \$605-\$645



Credit & police check required

(931) 557-9410 (931) 433-7751

Ust off Huntsville Hwy. • 500 Independence Drive





A Walmart casting contest sparked Lincoln County's beloved Free Fishing Day and Senior Rodeo tradition.

By Tina Neeley // Photography by Brooke Snyder

N A June Saturday morning, the Stone Bridge Park ducks are a sideshow, not the main attraction. Children crowd the banks, poles in hand — some steady, some wobbling — as adults crouch nearby to help bait hooks and untangle lines. The young anglers watch their lines with one eye and the lines around them with the other. "Fish on!" comes the first yell from the pond bank, one of many that will ripple throughout the event that day.

And it all began with a box.

Darion George, a Walmart employee, received a package in 2001 from the company's home office. Inside were two small rods and reels with weights for a parking lot casting contest.

"There was a note telling us to get with our local wildlife officer to have them help with this promotion kicking off summer with a free fishing day. Within a few days, I met with Leith Konyndyk with the Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency (TWRA), who had a letter instructing him to get with Walmart," George explained.







parents who once stood at the pond as children. "They say, I won a fishing pole when I was a kid, and now here's my kid fishing," he said. Moments like these, he explained, are what make all the hard work worthwhile.

And when the seniors asked for a day of their own, the spirit stayed just as lively.

"He's trying to catch my fish over here," one voice will shout across the pond, drawing a response from the opposite bank. The banter keeps time with baiting hooks and swapping stories, proof that a fishing pole in hand can make anyone feel like a kid again.

"The seniors understand what it is. It's a relaxing day. They get to catch some fish, and they have fun and fellowship," George said.

After more than two decades, George is quick to talk about the many who contribute to the success of the free fishing events. He credits TWRA, the Elks Lodge #1792, Fayetteville Parks and Recreation, Walmart, and dozens of local businesses for keeping the tradition alive.

"It couldn't happen without them," George said. "It's not about me."

Some kids will catch a fish. Others will lose one. But as George puts it, either way, "they have a story to tell the rest of their life." GN

Follow Lincoln County, TN Kids And Senior Annual Fishing Day on Facebook for more information.



▲ Tucker Norman

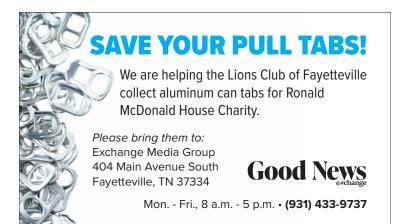




QUTDOOR SPORTS

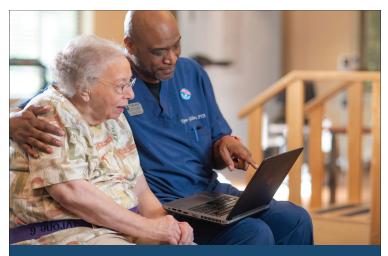
931-433-0006

FOSRIDE.com









Here for healing.

Let our skilled, compassionate therapy team help you get back to the life you love. for healing.

Physical, Occupational & Speech Therapies

Lynchburg Nursing Center

Call to schedule a personal tour. 931.759.6000

40 Nursing Home Rd. · Lynchburg, TN 37352 LynchburgNursingCenter.com

we care about your community. because it's our community too.

simple human sense.

BAGLEY & BAGLEY INSURANCE

102 College St E.
Fayetteville, TN • 931-433-3933
bagleyandbagley.com



GRILLING SEASON

We're Ready. Are You?



LOCAL PEOPLES GAS COMPANY

3296 Lewisburg Hwy. Petersburg, TN **931-659-6981 Phone 931-993-9496 J.D. Haislip** NY Mon.-Fri. 8 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Sat. 8 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.
We are locally owned & operated...
we want your business!
Proudly serving Fayetteville,
Lewisburg, and Surrounding Areas

ROYAL FURNITURE FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 1946

FREE MATTRESS

*WITH ANY 5-PCQUEEN BEDROOM GROUP IN STOCK OVER \$999

ASHLEY
QUEEN BEDROOM
GROUPS FOR ONLY

\$1499







UP TO 60 MONTH TERMS †\$0 DOWN WITH APPROVED CREDIT 6 | 12 | 18 | 36 MONTH TERMS ALSO AVAILABLE IN STORE

Tullahoma, TN 375 W Lincoln St Tullahoma, TN (931) 919-1577

Fayetteville, TN 1416 Huntsville Hwy,Ste B Fayetteville, TN (931) 414-5428 405 Bypass Rd Winchester, TN (931) 304-2895

Winchester, TN

royalfurniture.com





The Lifeline Warrior Foundation is proving that brotherhood doesn't end with service.

By Tina Neeley // Photos submitted by Allen Nunley





▲ HQS Platoon - Front row: SPC Mayes, Richard, SPC Abernathy, Joshua, SPC Stephen, Gray, SSG Bivvins, Jamie, PFC Wheeler, Clarice, PFC Loyd, Christopher, SPC Beddingfield, David Middle row: SPC Gaston, Gary, SPC Fields, William, SGT Harvey, William, SFC Oakes, Christopher, CPT Wilkinson, Randy, 1SG Nunley, Allen, SSG Garner, John, SGT Tucker, Gary, SSG Goode, Brian Back Row: SFC Rollins, Royce, SSG Foss, Patrick, SFC Jolley, Steven

UNDAY NIGHTS used to be quiet. Now, they're alive with voices — sometimes joking, sometimes heavy, always present. Veterans from the 278th G Troop of the Tennessee Army National Guard gather on Zoom for Sit-Rep Sunday. What began as a simple check-in became a lifeline. It's the thread that stitched them back together after one loss too many.

Stuart Rudy, who served with the unit, remembers how it started. "Shortly after returning home, we had a couple of our soldiers take their own life," he clearly recalled.

But the one in 2023 broke the silence for good, beginning with Sit-Rep Sunday, the weekly meeting that Keith and Tianna Hale started. Today, the Hales, Rudy, and other members have expanded the outreach to include the Lifeline Warrior Foundation and its companion project, the Den of Valor clubhouse. It's a grassroots effort restoring veterans' lives and connecting them with vital resources.

The vision is twofold: a space that feels like a hunting lodge, tucked off the beaten path, where veterans can relax, recover, and reconnect; and a support system that steps in when life gets overwhelming. The

foundation's board members — Rudy, Allen Nunley, Chase Clevenger, Keith and Tianna Hale, Erin Mosley, Brian Renfroe, and Daniel Slayton — have jumped in wherever needed.

"It hasn't seemed like work to find support," Rudy said.
"When we need something, it always shows up. I feel like God is behind us, paving the way as we go."

That faith fuels every effort — from trailering construction scraps from the North to repair homes to planning to build tiny homes and barracks on land they hope to purchase and tracking every veteran they help until they're standing strong again. One veteran needed a car to get to a new job; another needed help navigating a disability claim. A third had a home in disrepair. Rudy's team showed up with tools, support, and a plan.

But even with steady wins, the road forward isn't easy. Rudy is clear about the challenges: manpower and funding. They're raising \$160,000 for a mobile concert stage to create income, cut fundraising needs, and provide a job for veterans. It's a bold goal, but one they believe will sustain the mission.



66

It hasn't seemed like work to find support. When we need something, it always shows up. I feel like God is behind us, paving the way as we go.

-Stuart Rudy

A TRP G/MAYOR CELL REUNION COOKOUT 2024

Front row: Marie Desilets

Middle row: Brian Renfro, Jamison Langley, Stephan & Elizabeth Gray, Erin Mosley, Cassandra Holmes, and Jackie Ritchie

Back Row: Chris Vickers, Chase Clevenger, Jonathan Brown, Joshua Abernathy, Keith Hale, Stuart Rudy, Terry Harris, and Allen Nunley



▲ Second Platoon - Front row: SSG Nix, Joel, SSG Lawson, Timothy, MSG Dempsey, Paul, SFC Mosher, Edward, SSG Beddingfield, Jimmy, SSG Moorehead, Billy, and SPC Sanson, James

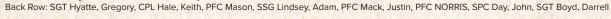
Middle row: SPC Rivers, Kevin, Get Name, SPC Williams, Erving, SPC McCormack, William, SPC Jones David, CPL Curtis, Jonathan, PV2 Desilets, Marie, SPC Duval, Colton, CPL Evans, Larry, SPC Hall, Michael, and SPC West, Robert

Back Row: PFC Nichols, Benjamin, SPC Harris, Terry, SGT Luna, Jonathan, SGT Hester, Allen, SGT Vickers, Christopher, SGT Taylor, Jonathan, SGT Eady, Ryan, SGT Wood, Christopher, SPC Rudy, Stuart, SGT Haley, Christopher, PFC Hummel, Kristoffer, PFC Durham, Thomas, PFC Dalton, Anthony, PFC Short, Darnell, and SPC Johnson, Isaiah



▲ First Platoon - Front row: 2 LT Oyston, Douglas, SFC McAnally, Glen Second row: SFC Seiber, Tracy, PFC Thomas, Paul, CPL McDonald, Corey, PFC Riner, Randy, PFC (Gray) Owens, Elizabeth, SGT Frazier, Kary, SPC Wright, SPC Mickle, Ronald, SPC Stiteler, Joseph, PFC Knight, Jonathan

Third row: SGT Davis, Adam, SGT Stevens, Michael, SPC Renfroe Brian, SPC Hoover, Christine, SSG Walker Grady, SPC Brown, Jesse, SPC Guyton, Mark, SPC Clevenger, Damon, SPC Kelley, Patrick, PFC Walker, Bradley, SPC Thomas, Johnnie, SPC Alexander, Kenneth





And there's another challenge, too: reaching the veterans who have pulled away. Some feel disillusioned or disconnected from traditional programs. That's why Den of Valor is different — more relaxed, more personal, built with veterans in mind.

Rudy envisions a space that feels like home, not filled with hand-me-down furniture or flickering lights, but thoughtfully built to help veterans feel cared for and welcomed.

But it's not the clubhouse or foundation that changes lives — it's the bonds between veterans. That's what Rudy knows they crave most: each other.

"We aren't wired to take care of ourselves. We survived by taking care of the people around us," he said. "We need to be together — at least close enough to keep an eye on each other."

That instinct to care for the person beside you — that's the thread running through it all. From virtual roll call to a future built by healing hands, the mission is clear: no one gets left behind. **GN**

To learn more about Lifeline Warrior Foundation or Den of Valor, contact Stuart Rudy at (931) 251-1195.



Senior care is the heart of what we do at **Meadowbrook**. If you or your loved one needs care close to home or family, let us be your first choice. Services include:

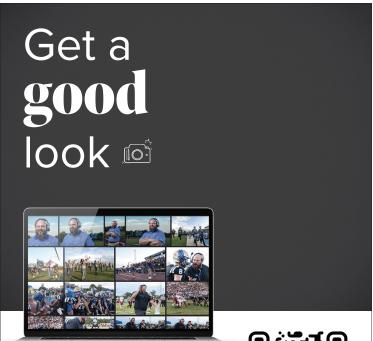
- · Nursing care
- Physical, occupational and speech therapy
- · Disease management
- Wound care
- IV therapy
- ARTS technology
- Much more

Call Today 931-363-7548

1245 East College St.
Pulaski, TN

HEALTHGARE AND REHABILITATION





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.



goodnewsmags.com/photos

Fayetteville's Most Unique & Historic Dining Experience





114 W. Market Street Fayetteville, TN 37334 931-433-1173

Mon: Closed • Tues - Thurs: 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM Sat: 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM • Sun: Closed

Edward Jones[®]

> edwardjones.com | Member SIPC



John Karby, CFP*, AAMS* Financial Advisor 1231 Huntsville Hwy. Suite C Fayetteville, TN 37334 (931) 438-3200

Need directions to your financial destination? Let's map out your future together.



Lisa McKern, AAMS* Financial Advisor 2899 Huntsville Hwy. Fayetteville, TN 37334 (931) 438-2378



Chicken Fingerz™ Zax Packz or Boneless Wings Zax Packz

20 hand-breaded Chicken Fingerz™ OR 30 Boneless Wings,made from all-white breast meat, tossed in your choice of sauce. Served with 2 large Crinkle Fries, 4 slices of Texas Toast and 4 dipping sauces of your choice



Zaxbys Lemon Pepper

Zesty, lemony, and buttery. Try Zaxbys new Lemon Pepper dry rub on Fingerz, wings, or Lemon Pepper sandwich.



ZAX FAMILY PACKS



20 PC. CHICKEN FINGERZ™ FAMILY PACK Regular or Buffalo

30 PC. BONELESS WINGS FAMILY PACK Regular

FAMOUS FINGERZ & WINGS



BONELESS WINGS 5ct., 10ct., or 20ct.

TRADITIONAL WINGS 5ct., 10ct., or 20ct.

CHICKEN FINGERZ™
10ct.. or 20ct

BUFFALO CHICKEN FINGERZTM 5ct., 10ct., or 20ct.

DESSERTS



CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIE
Three

FAMOUS MEAL DEALZ



CHICKEN FINGER PLATE Regular: 4ct., 5ct., 6ct. Buffalo: 4ct., 5ct., 6ct.

TRADITIONAL WINGS & THINGS Regular or Buffalo

BONELESS WINGS & THINGSRegular or Buffalo

BIG ZAX SNAK® MEAL Regular

BUFFALO BIG ZAX SNAK® MEAL Regular

GREAT 8 BONELESS WINGS MEAL Regular

BONELESS WINGS MEAL Regular

TRADITIONAL WINGS MEAL Regular

DRINKS



DRINKSmall, Medium or Large

GALLON OF SWEET OR UNSWEET TEA

KIDZ® DRINK

MILK Regular or Chocolate

APPLE JUICE

BIG ZALADS



THE HOUSE ZALAD® Fried, Grilled, or Garden

THE COBB ZALAD® Fried, Grilled, or Garden

SHAREABLES & SIDES



FRIED WHITE CHEDDAR BITES

FRIED PICKLES

CRINKLE FRIES
Regular or Large

COLESLAW - CUP

BASKET OF TEXAS TOAST

EXTRA CHICKEN FINGERRegular or Buffalo

THE NIBBLER

ZAX KIDZ® MEALS

Served with Crinkle Fries, Kidz[®] Drink, and a Treat.

KIDDIE FINGER

KIDDIE CHEESE

SANDWICH MEALZ



ZAXBY'S® SIGNATURE SANDWICH Meal or Sandwich only

ZAXBY'S SIGNATURE CLUB SANDWICH

Meal or Sandwich only

KICKIN CHICKEN SANDWICH

Meal or Sandwich only

GRILLED CHICKEN SANDWICH

Meal or Sandwich only

3 NIBBLERZ® SANDWICH

Meal or Sandwich only

SAUCES

Zax Sauce^{*}, Spicy Zax Sauce[™], Ranch, Honey Mustard, Wimpy[™], Tongue Torch^{*}, Nuclear[™], Hot Honey Mustard, Sweet & Spicy, Teriyaki, BBQ, Buffalo Garlic Blaze



931-227-4999

1511 Huntsville Hwy., Fayetteville, TN

www.zaxbys.com

*Prices subject to change without notice





Savor Summer's

Easy Living

Family and friends sweeten the season.

S SUMMER heats up, so do our grills and smokers, giving our kitchens a well-deserved break. Casual worknight dinners, weekend celebrations, and holiday parties bring together families for good food and, sometimes, fireworks.

Plates filled with barbecue, burgers, and dogs, joined by potato salad, coleslaw, chips, and dips, are balanced as we gather in lawn chairs or sit by the pool. Homemade ice cream and cookies sweeten the occasion.

Summer living — and its foods — are easy! GN



Tangy Grilled Beef

Submitted by Rosalind Lindsey

1 can tomato soup
1 t. Worcestershire sauce
1 t. garlic powder
1/4 t. dried thyme leaves, crushed
2 t. packed brown sugar
2 t. lemon juice
2 t. vegetable oil
11/2 lbs. boneless beef sirloin steak, cut 3/4" thick

In a large bowl, mix soup, sugar, lemon juice, oil, Worcestershire, garlic and thyme. Brush mixture on both sides of steak. Place steak on hot grill and cook until golden brown and slightly charred. Turn steak over and continue to cook until desired level of doneness. Bring remaining soup mixture to a boil and serve with steak.

Roasted Corn on the Cob

Submitted by Betty Pirtle

8 ears fresh corn in husks 1/3 c. Italian dressing 2 1/2 T. water 1T. chili powder 1/8 t. ground red pepper

Carefully peel back husks, exposing corn. Leave husks attached. Remove and discard silks. Combine Italian dressing, water, chili powder, and red pepper in a small mixing bowl. Stir well and brush over corn. Return husk to original position and tie the tips with wire twist-ties. Grill corn over medium hot coals for 30 minutes or until the corn is tender. Turn corn every 5 minutes.

New York Push Cart Hot Dog Onion Sauce

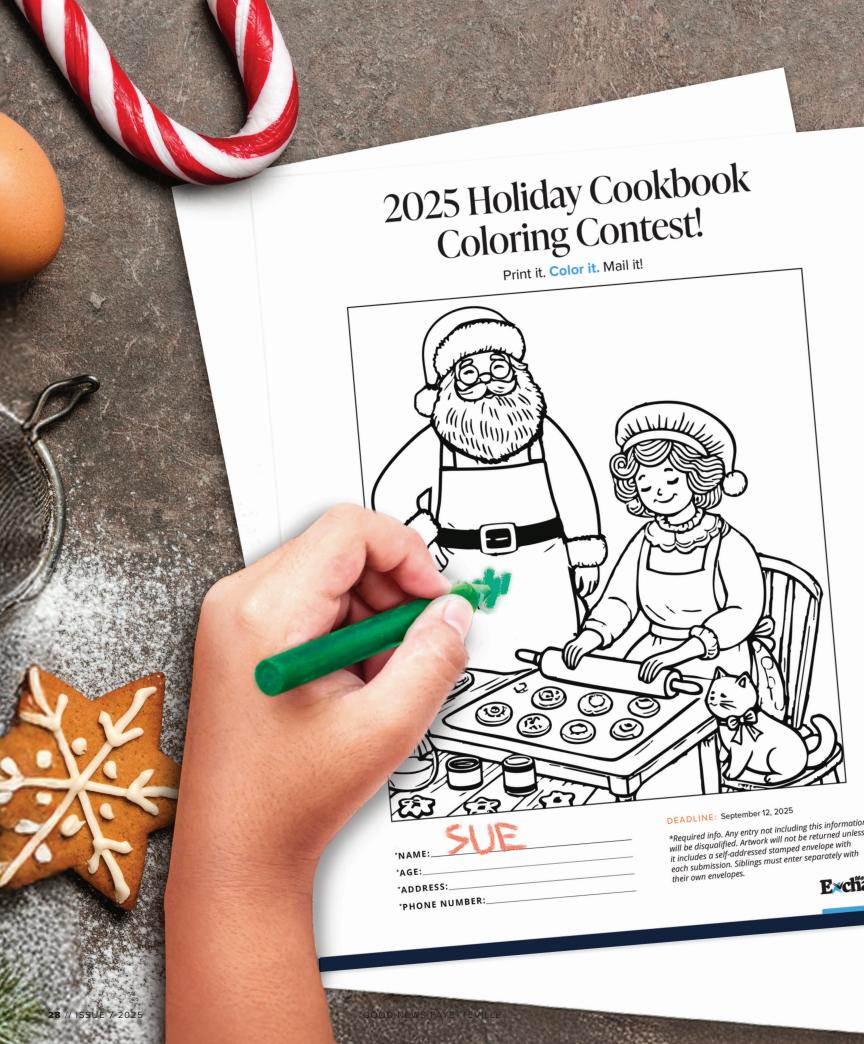
Submitted by Emma Hardin

2T. vegetable oil 2 md. onions, sliced ¼ inch slices 1/4 c. ketchup pinch of ground cinnamon 1/8 t. chili powder dash of hot pepper sauce dash of salt 1/2 c. water

In a medium skillet, heat vegetable oil over medium heat. Add onion slices and saute for 7 minutes or until golden brown. Add ketchup, cinnamon, chili powder, hot pepper sauce, and salt. Pour in water, stir, and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer, uncovered, for about 10 minutes. Serve over hot dogs.

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





Be on the cover of the 2025 Cookbook!

Is your child ready to show off their artistic talents?

Our annual Christmas Cookbook is looking for a festive cover, and we want YOUR child's artwork to shine!

Prizes: Winning art will be featured on our cookbook cover, and the artist will receive \$50!

Deadline: Friday, September 12.

Mail or drop off your entry: 404 Main Ave. S. Favetteville. TN 37334

Return: Want your child's art back? Include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

All other entries will belong to Exchange Media Group.

Don't miss this chance for your child's art to be part of our holiday tradition!

Must be 10 and under to enter!

SCAN TO ENTER



exchange-inc.com/cookbook-coloring-contest-2025/

DEB SCHROEDER

STILL ANSWERING THE CALL

Her lifetime of service has been shaped by sacrifice, faith, and the quiet strength to keep going.

By Tina Neeley // Photography by Brooke Snyder and submitted by Deb Schroeder







THE PHONE rang, but Deb Schroeder barely glanced up. Another call. Another message to take. She sat behind the reception desk at the University of Michigan, watching the clock and wondering if this was all life had to offer. "Lord," she thought, "this can't be it."

Not long after, she walked into an Air Force recruiter's office on campus. A glossy image caught her eye. "I want to work on those airplanes," she told him. Not in administration — on the jet. She had taken an auto shop course in high school and wasn't afraid to get her hands dirty.

Before long, she was on the tarmac, toolbox in hand, while two men worked side by side at the next plane over. They always got paired up. Schroeder worked alone. "I proved myself," she said. "I was stronger than I ever thought."

That mindset became her foundation during six years of active duty, 17 more in the Air National Guard, and seasons of marriage and divorce. One deployment stands out — when she and another single mother traded shifts in Kuwait so both could serve while ensuring their kids were cared for back home.

"Service before self" wasn't just a motto. It was a way of life.

In 2018, Schroeder moved to Fayetteville, bringing that same spirit with her.



 All crosses are hand-built, hand-painted, and the names are printed, cut, and applied, one at a time.

"I PROVED MYSELF. I WAS STRONGER THAN I EVER THOUGHT."

DEB SCHROEDER





Deb and others from the American Legion go through each cross to inspect for imperfections. All crosses that need repairs will receive them and all together, the crosses will be placed for viewing.

She and her husband, Kurt, are deeply involved with the American Legion and VFW. Friday nights are for gathering at the post — a space where veterans don't need to explain themselves.

"You feel like you belong just by walking in," she said.

Through her work with the American Legion and VFW, Schroeder helps with the local veterans angel tree program, joins in cleaning gravesites year-round, and helps make memorial crosses that are placed with flags each Memorial Day and Veterans Day in honor of veterans who have died — quiet work, done with care and a desire to help others.

That help comes wrapped in empathy. When others are hurting, Schroeder looks for ways to bring relief and encouragement,

asking herself, "If I were in their place, how would I want to be treated?"

Her compassion runs deep, shaped and strengthened by real trials: a son's open-heart surgery, another child's leukemia diagnosis, and a serious motorcycle accident of her own. Through it all, she leaned on faith.

"My church lifted us up. Prayer lifted the burden," she shared. "Everything I've gone through, we've had people praying for us, and it just lifts that weight right from your shoulders. I literally can feel that weight being lifted. It's amazing."

These days, her mornings begin with Bible study — the quiet time that keeps her grounded. Between family visits and local commitments, she stays in touch with others who need a lift.



▲ Deb attending jet engine technician school

It's a rhythm reflecting a deeper calling that's never really let go. What began with a restless search for purpose has become a steady life of service, sustained by faith and community.

Her strength is quiet, steady, and rooted in a lifetime of choosing to serve. She's still answering the call with a heart shaped by service and softened by faith. **GN**

"EVERYTHING I'VE GONE THROUGH, WE'VE HAD PEOPLE PRAYING FOR US, AND IT JUST LIFTS THAT WEIGHT RIGHT FROM YOUR SHOULDERS."

DEB SCHROEDER



▲ Deb being a part of an engine test stand run in Turkey in 1998



SAM SMILEY

FROM PATROLS TO PURPOSE

After 22 years in law enforcement, he found unexpected meaning mentoring Lincoln County students through D.A.R.E.

By Tina Neeley // Photography by Brooke Snyder



EPUTY SAM Smiley stood at the front of the fifth-grade classroom, feeling the weight of expectant eyes. As he asked the students to name responsibilities at home or school, some answered eagerly, others fidgeted with pencils or shifted in their seats, glancing sideways to see who would speak first. A few raised their hands, testing whether he meant it when he said their voices mattered.

He had prepared for weeks, but standing in front of the students for the first time still stirred a flicker of uncertainty.

"My nerves kind of went away after the first lesson," Smiley shared. "After the first two or three weeks, I could see the trust was being built. It was really surprising."

Stepping into the classroom changed everything — his perspective, his purpose, and ultimately, his path.

After 22 years in law enforcement, Smiley once pictured his next career move leading to investigations. Instead, he found something unexpected in D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) — a calling to invest in the next generation.



▲ Sam addresses fifth graders thanking them for their participation and good behavior.

"IF EVEN ONE STUDENT FEELS MORE COMFORTABLE REACHING OUT BECAUSE OF D.A.R.E., THEN WE'RE DOING SOMETHING RIGHT."

SAM SMILEY



▲ Deputy Sam Smiley handed out nearly 300 D.A.R.E. graduation certificates to fifth graders all across Lincoln County.

"Public speaking and working with kids outside of my own family was completely new for me, and honestly, a little intimidating at first," Smiley said. "But during the D.A.R.E. Officer Training, something shifted. The program didn't just teach us how to teach, it helped me

understand the real impact we can have on these kids'lives ... it just clicked. I stopped seeing it as stepping out of my comfort zone and started seeing it as stepping into my purpose."

Smiley credits his wife, Melissa, for encouraging him to take on the new challenge. Balancing patrol duties with classroom teaching hasn't been easy, but Smiley is building something lasting with his students with the support and backing of his shift at the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office.

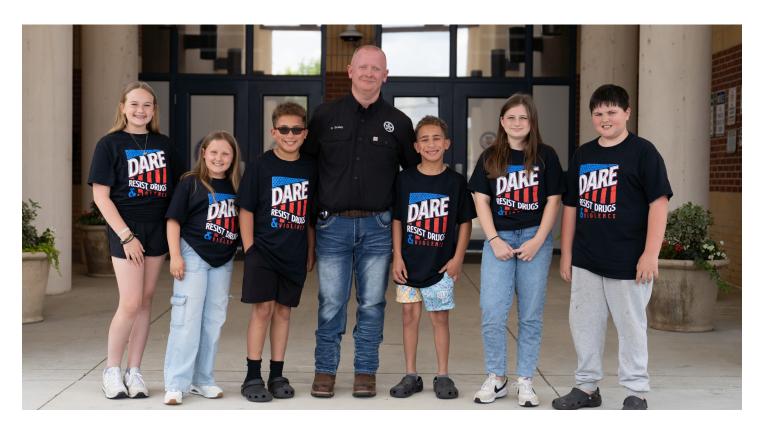
Over 10 weeks, Smiley taught fifth graders at Unity, Flintville, Blanche, South Lincoln, and Highland Rim schools about responsibility, decision-making, peer pressure, and self-esteem. As the weeks passed, the lessons became less about the workbook and more about small, daily moments that build trust — a kind word, a listening ear, and a safe space to ask hard questions.

"They've reminded me how important it is to be genuine," Smiley said. "Even small moments ... can have a big impact."

Students began leaving notes in the D.A.R.E. box he kept in the classroom — private questions they didn't feel comfortable asking out loud. Some waited after class to talk. Others sought him out in the hallways just to say hello or ask for advice. What started as a program to teach students how to make safe choices quickly grew into something stronger — a bridge of trust between young people and law enforcement.

Nearly 300 fifth graders across Lincoln County graduated from the program in May. For Smiley, the ceremony is as much about knowing he helped create real, meaningful connections as it is about certificates and celebrations.

"If even one student feels more comfortable reaching out because of D.A.R.E.," he said, "then we're doing something right." GN



A Kaelyn Smith, Abby Kate Gault, Braelyn Twyman, Sam Smiley, Kamdyn Twyman, Addison Brislin, and Cason Holt. These students represent all five county K-8 schools: Unity, South Lincoln, Flintville, Blanche, and Highland Rim.



Sam and Melissa Smiley in LCA waiting to serve lunch to 300 fifth graders who just graduated from the D.A.R.E. program

ANITA ASHWORTH

HONORING LINCOLN COUNTY'S FALLEN

Her research brings World War II heroes' stories to life through the Stories Behind the Stars project.

By Tina Neeley // Photography by Brooke Snyder







A NITA ASHWORTH pulled open the door to the Warrior Exhibit. Outside, traffic circled the square, everyday life in motion — its freedom preserved by those remembered within these walls. Time slowed as she passed the faces and memorabilia honoring Lincoln County residents who served our country across generations of war.

Hope and anticipation swelled as she neared the World War II area. Here, she would discover the faces behind the stories she tells. Their sacrifice — and the holes left in their families and communities — became personal. Through her contributions to Stories Behind the Stars, Ashworth honors not just the fallen but also the lives they lived and the loved ones they left behind.

Her connection to the fallen reaches beyond research. "I went from Army brat to Army wife," she said, noting that both her father and late husband retired from the Army. "With my love of history and genealogy, this project was close to my heart."

Stories Behind the Stars is a national project preserving the memory of over 400,000 Americans who died during World War II. When Ashworth read about it in a Huntsville newspaper, she signed up and completed the project's online "boot camp" to learn how to help.

Many of the men Ashworth researched came from small communities like Flintville, Taft, and Petersburg. "Many came from large families and worked on the family farm," she said. "The majority came from



Keeping and making notes are one way Anita helps keep the stories of veteran families alive.

"I AM GRATEFUL
TO BE ABLE TO
CONTRIBUTE TO
THIS WORTHWHILE
PROJECT AND TELL
THE STORIES OF
THESE MEN, WHO
WOULD OTHERWISE
BE FORGOTTEN."

ANITA ASHWORTH







▲ Anita inside the Warriors Exhibit in Fayetteville

small communities around Fayetteville." Some left mills or fields behind. Many had only a grammar school education.

"But when they were drafted, they went and fought bravely and patriotically for their country."

Families like Charles and Annie Wright of Fayetteville lost not one but two sons — James Levi and Charles Oscar. Both served in the Navy. Both were lost at sea — one in the Atlantic and one in the Pacific.

Ashworth begins each profile with census records, searching for where they lived, what their families were like, and whether they worked on a farm or in a local mill. Military records help her trace their units and battles, and she turns to newspaper archives and obituaries to piece together more personal moments.

"I usually start writing their profiles with a little background information," she explained. "The census records provide many details ... Military records are my biggest resource, as well as Find-a-Grave and newspaper articles and obituaries."

Sometimes, family members share photographs or stories directly. One niece sent Ashworth pictures of her uncle, Tec-5 Howard Benson, including one in uniform. Photos and shared details bring life to their stories, ensuring they are not faceless names identified by their service records.

You can help Ashworth preserve Lincoln County's stories.

"I am still hoping to find pictures of many of Lincoln County's World War II fallen," she said. "I am grateful to be able to contribute to this worthwhile project and tell the stories of these men, who would otherwise be forgotten."

In places like the Warrior Exhibit — and through her careful research — their names are remembered, their stories retold, and their sacrifices are never forgotten. **GN**

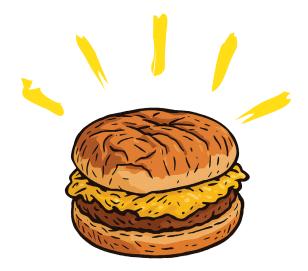
To share information about a Lincoln County WWII fallen soldier, contact Anita Ashworth by calling (256) 651–8615 or emailing her at anita.ashworth@att.net. The Stories are posted on fold3.com.

"BUT WHEN THEY
WERE DRAFTED,
THEY WENT AND
FOUGHT BRAVELY
AND PATRIOTICALLY
FOR THEIR
COUNTRY."

ANITA ASHWORTH



Many of the men Anita Ashworth researches came from small communities like Flintville, Taft, and Petersburg.



Slawburger Festival A recipe for joy

Fayetteville's cherished tradition not only honors its unique heritage but also drives substantial economic growth and fosters a brighter future for all.

HE SLAWBURGER Festival is an annual event that brings the community together in celebration of the town's signature dish: the mustard-based, slaw-topped burger. First introduced in 2015, the festival is held every April on the historic downtown square and has steadily grown in popularity. The event commemorates a local culinary tradition that dates back to the 1920s and offers attendees a variety of entertainment and food options.

According to data documented in the Economic Impact Report from Fayetteville Main Street, in 2025, the Slawburger Festival attracted an estimated 11,300 visitors, an increase from the 10,000 who attended in 2024. The festival contributed between \$1.61 million and \$1.63 million to the local

economy. This economic impact included over \$80,000 in sales tax revenue and supported approximately 32 full-time equivalent jobs. Local businesses reported a significant increase in sales during the event.

The festival featured numerous attractions, including a vendor marketplace, live music performances, a beer garden, and a Kids Zone. The Kids Zone is managed by Junior's House, a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting children who have experienced abuse.

Proceeds from the festival are reinvested into local initiatives, including beautification projects and educational programs. The Slawburger Festival continues to serve as both a celebration of Fayetteville's heritage and a key driver of economic and community development.

The Annual Slawburger Chase 5k/10k kicked off the Slawburger Festival. All proceeds from the event benefited Always Endure, a nonprofit dedicated to removing financial barriers for adoptive families, patients with major medical diagnoses, and children in foster care. **GN**



▲ Jim Donaldson and Adam Lewis



▲ Group from the Annual Slawburger Chase 5K/10K Run



▲ Bonnie Cobb-Cook and Jessa Pigg



▲ Landen Ray and Mackenzie Widner



▲ Daisy Deal and Miyako Lewis



▲ Christy Freehauf



▲ Ricky and Rachel McCauley



▲ Catalina Carrascon, Tammy Jones, Tammy Haney, Gail Gardner, Jody Quick, Brenda Jones, and Alice Jones



Good News Magazine's mission is to build stronger communities through positive stories. We encourage you to donate and volunteer at local nonprofits to spread more good in your community.

American Legion Post 42

Advocates for upholding and defending the United States Consitution, equal justice, opportunity for everyone, discrimination against no one, youth education, responsible citizenship, and honoring military service by observing and participating in memorial events.

(931) 433-1897

Clothing Lincoln County Old Time Christian Outreach Center

Provides free clothing to people in need. The ministry accepts clothing donations and organizes them for people to shop through.

(931) 703-1894

Fayetteville-Lincoln County Chamber of Commerce

Unites businesses and professional individuals in an effort to support the area's economy and quality of life.

(931) 433-1234 or (888) 433-1238 www.fayettevillelincolncountychamber.com

Fabulous Fifties Foundation

Serves locals facing illness, accidents, and hardships with funds raised from the Fabulous Fifties Show — an annual show that brings oppurtunities to local performers and joy to the community

(931) 433-3933 www.fabulousfiftiesshow.com

Fayetteville-Lincoln County Arts Center Enhances the quality of life in

Enhances the quality of life in the community through the presentation, education, and promotion of all art disciplines including visual, conceptual, and performing arts.

(931) 225-8578 www.flcarts.com

Motlow College Foundation

Provides scholarships and supports programs at Motlow State Community College.

(931) 393-1543 www.motlow.edu/give/ foundation.html

The Fayetteville-Lincoln County Museum and Civic Center

Collects and displays artifacts and information about the history and culture of Fayetteville and Lincoln County, and the event center is available for public rentals.

(931) 297-2450 www.flcmuseum.org



Friends of the Fayetteville-**Lincoln County Public Library Association**

Supports the library through various avenues as a group of volunteers.

(931) 433-3286 www.flcpl.org/friends-of-the-library

Lincoln County Humane Society

Shelters stray and abandoned animals in Lincoln County and provides pet adoption services.

(931) 433-3726 www.humanesocietylc.com

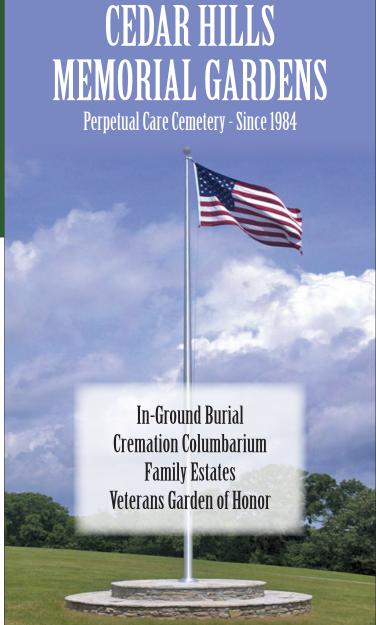
Clothe Our Kids of Lincoln County Inc. Provides at-risk children with needed

clothing and shoe

(931) 625-6953 www.clotheourkids.com

Fayetteville Elks Lodge #1792
Provides various types of assistance to veterans in need and members of Lincoln County. Offers academic and trade Scholarship opportunities to Lincoln, Moore, Coffee, and Franklin counties. Contributes financially in support of numerous community activities.

(931) 433-2433 office@faylod1792.net





23 Memory Lane, Fayetteville, TN 37334 **Business office:**

213 East Market Street, Fayetteville, TN 37334

931.433.2544

www.higginsfh.com

Charles Higgins • Clay Higgins • Chris Ross

GOOD NEWS SUPPORTERS

We can spread Good News because of our generous advertisers. They help make our world a little brighter. We encourage you to do business with them.

Allgas Inc	24
Bagley and Bagley Insurance	
Bank of Lincoln County	48
Bradford Appliance	9
Cahoots Restaurant	24
Edward Jones	24
Elk River Health & Rehabilitation of Fayetteville	8
Fayetteville Outdoor Sports	18
Fayetteville Public Utilities	
First National Bank Mortgage	
First United Methodist Church	8
FirstBank	18
Five Star Lawn & Landscaping Inc	4
Gallant-Riverview Funeral Home	
Heritage South Community Credit Union	8
Higgins Funeral Home	

anes Land Management LLC	18
incoln Health System	12
incoln/Bedford/Moore Farmers Co-op	12
ocal Peoples Gas Company	19
ynchburg Nursing Center	19
Meadowbrook Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center	24
Nundy Home Center Inc	
Dakview Apartments	12
Quality First Home Care	4
Richardson Waste Removal LLC/Richardson Waste Solutions LLC	8
Royal Furniture	
Sabghi Jewelers	
Small & Small Oil Co	4
Stan McNabb Chevrolet Buick GMC	
[*] & L Roofing	4
'axhv's	25



It's **good** to know people 💯

We want to build stronger communities through positive, local stories. We can't do that without advertisers like you. Reach an engaged audience that wants to support your business.

Call me at (931) 205-0640







THE AMERICAN DREAM Starts Here







Bank of Lincoln County #bolcgives







