

The Expositor

Vol. 148, No. 5

SpartaLive.com | Thursday, January 25, 2024

Sparta, TN • \$1.00

TDOT launches pothole repairs after winter storm

Last week's winter storm has created an abundance of potholes along interstates and state routes. The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) is launching a statewide effort using all available resources to repair the damaged areas as quickly as possible.

During the prolonged weather event, TDOT crews worked around the clock for several days clearing state routes and assisting motorists. Watch this video.

- 105,500 Staff Hours
- 88,500 Tons of Salt
- 1,500,000 Tons of Brine
- 884,200 Miles Driven
- 1,902 Incidents Managed, Motorists Helped
- 892 Vehicles

(These preliminary numbers are expected to increase slightly at final count.)

Multiple crews will be patching potholes over the coming days and weeks. Cold mix asphalt is currently being used for repairs. More permanent repairs will be made in spring and early summer when asphalt plants are producing hot mix.

In some cases, motorists should be prepared for short-term traffic delays during these pothole repair operations. While every effort will be made to perform repairs during off-peak travel times (9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. weekdays), some lane closures may extend into the late afternoon, evening, and weekends. We ask drivers to be patient and to watch out for TDOT crews on interstates and state highways.

Work with Us - move over, slow down.

Please note - inclement weather, emergency repairs or incidents may disrupt daily schedules. TDOT does not count potholes, keep a tally of how many potholes have been repaired or the cost of repairs per pothole. These repairs are part of normal highway maintenance operations. Drivers can report potholes by calling the TDOTFIX Hotline at 833-TDOTFIX or by submitting an online maintenance request form.

From your desktop or mobile device, get the latest road conditions and live streaming SmartWay traffic cameras at www.TNSmartWay.com/Traffic. Travelers can also dial 511 for travel information or follow us on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/myTDOT> for statewide travel.



GROUP EFFORT. Firefighters from several White County districts work to prevent a massive fire from spreading at a business on Roberts-Matthews Highway.

Massive fire destroys RV repair business, people were trapped on the roof

Numerous resources and personnel stay on scene more than five hours

DEREK WILSON
Chief - North End Volunteer Fire Department

On Jan. 21, 2024, at 8:06 a.m., North End Volunteer Fire Department, with automatic aid from Cassville Volunteer Fire Department, Cherry Creek Vol-

unteer Fire Department, and Sparta Fire Department, was dispatched to a commercial structure fire at 3703 Roberts-Matthews Highway, which is Above and Beyond RV Repair. This also included White County Sheriff's Office and White County Emergency Medical Service.

At approximately 8:08 a.m., it was relayed to all responding agencies there were people stuck on a roof (which was a roof above the porch). There was no way of exit through the

burning structure. The only exit they had was out the window to this roof until help could arrive.

At approximately 8:12 a.m., the first arriving deputy advised the structure was about 50 percent involved. During this time, a citizen was going to a call where he worked at Lee Company and saw the fire. The individual got off the exit and came to help with a ladder he had on his work van. J.D. Wooten saw people on the roof with no way to es-

FIRE 2A

Multiple agencies assist in rescue at Fall Creek Falls

Sparta-White County Rescue Squad assists at the scene

PINEY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
Van Buren County

At approximately 3 p.m., Jan. 16, 2024, Piney Volunteer Fire Department, Fall Creek Falls Fire Department, Fall Creek Falls State Park, and Van Buren County Sheriff's Office were dispatched to a lost person off the park road, near the north entrance of Fall Creek Falls State Park. Personnel arrived and found tracks in the snow leading into the woods. The tracks were



CAREFULLY. Piney Volunteer Fire Department and other agencies work to bring a hiker up from a 700-foot bluff.

RESCUE 2A

George indicted for vehicular homicide in death of Lewis

Charges allege intoxication and recklessness

KIM SWINDELL WOOD
editor | kim@spartalive.com

A two-vehicle crash that occurred June 28, 2023, in White County, and resulted in one fatality has led to the indictment of 42-year-old Sumor Lynn George, of Pikeville.

White County Grand Jury returned two true bills, on June 8, 2024, for George after evidence was presented to the jury members. George is charged with vehicular homicide by intoxication and vehicular homicide by recklessness.

According to a preliminary report, on June 28, 2023, from

Tennessee Highway Patrol, George was traveling in a south-west direction, on US 70S, driving a 2020 Ford vehicle.

William D. Lewis, 63, who was driving a backhoe, was also traveling in a southwest direction on US 70S.

According to the June 28, 2023, report, George's vehicle impacted Lewis's backhoe with the front end of George's vehicle.

Both vehicles then left the roadway to the right side of the road. The vehicle driven by George then caught fire. The backhoe driven by Lewis overturned. According to the report from THP, the driver of the backhoe was deceased at the scene.

An initial court appearance for George was Jan. 23, 2024.

County to begin negotiations with intent to sell landfill

Companies undergo intense review

RACHEL AUBERGER
Staff Writer

For the past several months, White County has been accepting proposals from companies interested in purchasing the White County Landfill, and, this week, the decision was narrowed down to one of those companies.

"Two companies turned in proposals," Kyle Goff, chairman of the county commission, said.

Goff said Waste Management and Republic Services had responded to the Request For Proposal (RFP) process.

"After intense review, on Jan. 4, the Solid Waste Committee scored the RFPs on a 0-100 scale that was comprised of several different categories," Goff said.

According to Goff, Waste Management scored a 96.6,

while Republic Services scored a 91.3.

"Because the variance was less than 10 points, the next step is a presentation by both parties to the Solid Waste Committee," Goff explained. "The presentation portion will be scored separately and factored into the overall score."

Despite the winter storm that had blanketed the entire state, the meeting between the two companies and the White County Commission took place Jan. 16, with Republic Services receiving a score of 6.5 on their presentation and bringing their total score to 97.8, while Waste Management scored 6.93 on their presentation for a total score of 103.5.

"The factors that I personally considered were operational plan, monetary offer, retention of White County employees, recycling innovation, longevity of disposal of waste for White County and no cost, and com-

LANDFILL 2A

EDD ROGERS



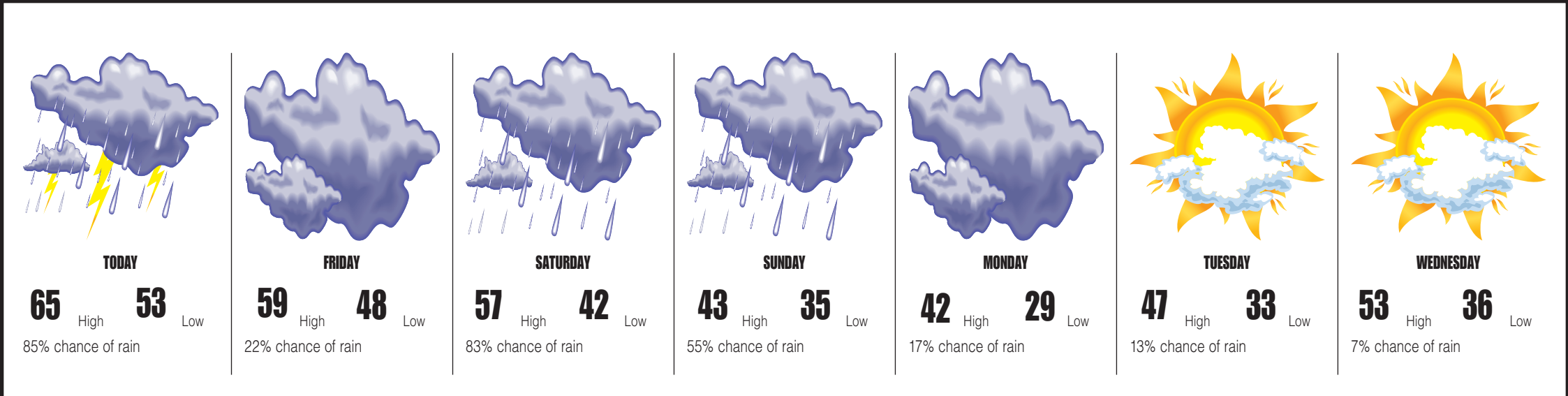
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FIRE

CONTINUED FROM 1A

cape, drove off the next exit, and helped get them to safety along with their dog.

At approximately 8:14 a.m., the building was fully involved, and it was relayed all individuals were off the roof and not in danger.

Upon arrival of the first engine, at 8:22 a.m., heavy black/dark gray smoke and heavy fire inside the structure was showing. All fire was contained to inside the building at that time. With the number of resources that would be needed, a county-wide dispatch was requested for manpower and tankers. An individual was given permission to safely and quickly get all campers that were in danger out of



Photo submitted by Stacy Gunnels

the way.

There was a hydrant across the highway from the structure, but it was not operable. Cold, windy, and ice conditions made this a challenge. The water re-

sources, as typically are done in rural areas, were dependent upon water tankers. With most of the county resources concentrated on this fire, Putnam County Fire Department was called

to help cover White County and stage at Station 1 in case of another emergency.

Red Cross was called to assist the family with their needs. With the icy conditions, White County Highway Department was called to help with the road conditions where operations were conducted. Domino's brought pizza to help with the rehab of the firefighters. Elite Automotive was called initially to help get campers away. The wind conditions and the fuel load inside the structure helped advance the fire quickly. Extensive overhaul was conducted, and crews remained on the scene over five-and-a-half hours. A lot of resources are needed with any fire, but larger structures

require more resources to safely operate.

The fire was determined to be accidental. Everyone did a great job working together, and no major injuries were reported. It was icy, people were sliding, falling, but we were able to manage and get everything under control with no major injuries. All units cleared the scene at approximately 1:56 p.m.

In all, with just White County on the fire scene, we had a total of three engines, one ladder truck, two service vehicles, seven tankers, one brush truck, four deputies, one ambulance crew, and 47 fire personnel. Putnam County responded with one engine and four personnel. Sparta Fire Department had three per-

sonnel standing by at Station 1.

I want to thank everyone that helped during this incident and those at White County E-911 that are the first ones that take the call. We are blessed to live in a community to have good Samaritans, the emergency services personnel we do, the road crews we have, and businesses willing to pitch in whenever there is a need. If you are wanting or thinking of helping in any way to give back to your community, we all need help in some way. Reach out to any department and see how you can help. If anything, we just ask you to keep us all in your prayers as we serve the communities in which we reside.

LANDFILL

CONTINUED FROM 1A

community involvement," Goff said, adding that the presentations were very informative and played a major factor in determining the future of the county's Solid Waste Department.

On Jan. 22, the county com-

mission voted 10 to 1 in favor of allowing White County executive Denny Wayne Robinson, who will be assisted by the county's attorney and other key stakeholders, to enter into negotiations with Waste Management, the company with the highest scoring

on both their written proposal and their in-person presentation. Chris Brewington, who represents District 1, was the lone nay vote, while Jordan Cocke (District 5), T.K. Austin (District 2), and Roger Mason (District 6) were absent and therefore did

not cast a vote.

"This was not a vote to sell the landfill," Goff explained. "The vote is only to accept the RFP and move to the next step of negotiations."

Both parties, Waste Management and White County, will be-

gin negotiations, and only when an agreement is reached will the county commission be asked to vote on approving a final sale. As with any sale of property, should that take place in the future, there will be a lengthy period of time between the vote and the actual

closing date as well. According to Goff, selling the landfill, should an agreement be reached between the parties, is still months away.

Goff encouraged anyone with questions or concerns about the process to reach out to him at kyle.goff@whitecountyttn.gov

RESCUE

CONTINUED FROM 1A

followed to the bluff line overlooking Cane Creek Gorge.

Due to the steep terrain, deep snow, and frigid conditions, rescue personnel were called back to rehab. Tennessee Highway Patrol was requested to fly the area with their FLIR thermal imaging camera. The THP helicopter responded to the area and found the subject. Personnel were quickly dispatched to respond to the location. It took a crew of park rangers over an hour to hike into the location.

After a location was confirmed, rescue personnel from Dunlap Fire Department, Chattanooga Cave and Cliff, Putnam County Rescue Squad, Sparta-White County Rescue Squad,

Warren County Rescue Squad, Sequatchie County Emergency Management Agency, and rangers from many state parks across Tennessee assisted at the scene. The patient was down a 700-foot bluff that required a couple of rope systems to be set up for hauls.

The rescue personnel worked together to set up the systems and man the ropes. People were also swapped out, when possible, to allow for rehab and warming themselves. The extremely cold temperatures and deep snow hampered rescue efforts. The temperature was recorded as low as minus 13 degrees Fahrenheit.

The patient was brought to the top of the escarpment (a



long, steep slope, especially one at the edge of a plateau or separating areas of land at different heights) and carried out to meet a vehicle to be transported to an ambulance. The last rescuer made it to the top of the bluff around 8 a.m.

One rescuer was treated at a local hospital for mild hypothermia.

Everyone, from Van Buren County E-911 Dispatch to all the people who responded, did an excellent job. Many thanks to everyone who helped.

LEFT AND BELOW. Emergency personnel prepare to rescue a hiker who was down a 700-foot bluff.



The Expositor

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34 W. Bockman Way
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Phone: (931) 836-3284
Website: SpartaLive.com

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Thursday edition - 10 a.m., Tuesday

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The Expositor SSN. 1044-1166 is published weekly by Sparta Newspapers, Inc. at 34 W. Bockman Way, Sparta, Tennessee 38583
Periodical postage paid by U.S. Post Office, Sparta, Tennessee 38583

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

\$40, one year in county
\$60, one year out of county
\$100, one year out of state

Publication No. 509380
POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to The Expositor
34 W. Bockman Way
Sparta, Tennessee 38583
Expositor phone number: (931) 836-3284



OBITUARIES

CHELSEA PRICE LEDBETTER
MAY 25, 1994-JAN. 15, 2024

Chelsea Price Ledbetter passed away unexpectedly, on Jan. 15, 2024, at the young age of 29. She was born May 25, 1994, in Cookeville, and was the daughter of Glen Price and Christy Dodson Howell and Steve Howell.

Chelsea was a loving mother to four beautiful children, Oakley, Lennox, Braleigh, and Judah, and wife to Patrick Ledbetter. She loved God, her family, and friends fiercely. She had such a fun, outgoing (loved to talk) personality. She loved people and never met a stranger. She was very intelligent. She had the biggest heart and would do anything for anyone. She will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

She is preceded in death by her grandfather, W.C. Dodson, and grandparents, James Lee and Louise Price.

Chelsea is survived by her husband, Patrick Ledbetter; her children, Oakley, Lennox, Braleigh, Judah, and Emma Allen; her parents, Glen Price, Christy Howell and Steve Howell; mother-in-law Kim (Cliff) Ferrell; father-in-law, Patrick (Teresa) Ledbetter; her siblings, Christen (Tommy) Baker, Chase (Hannah) Price, Destinee Price, Glenn (Martha) Price Jr., Reed Howell, Dustin (Danielle) Howell; sisters-in-law, Sarah (Blake) Gentry, Morgan Ledbetter; her grandmother, Brenda (Ron) Dodson and grandmothers Patsy Beard and Patty Word; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins that were so special to her.

Private funeral services were conducted Jan. 21, 2024, from the chapel of Hunter Funeral Home. Burial followed in Mt. Pisgah Cemetery.

Hunter Funeral Home
was in charge of arrangements.



DONALD STEPHEN HOLMAN

Donald Stephen Holman, of Lebanon, passed peacefully from this life, on Jan. 7, 2024, in the embrace of his loving wife, Tu, and a circle of close family. He was a born leader, a gifted storyteller, and an unflinching champion of conservative politics.

Born on May 10, 1959, in Highland Park Michigan, to James Thomas and Floria Berea Judd Holman, he was the youngest child in a preacher's household of eight. He grew up traveling between the churches his parents would build, in Michigan, and the cherished pastures of the family farm along the banks of Taylor's Creek, in Sparta. He graduated from White County High School, in 1976. His charismatic personality, graceful diplomacy, and dogged work ethic brought him success as a store manager and corporate trainer for Walmart. Tiring of the corporate world, he joined his brother, Paul Holman, to launch a series of successful businesses, including the photography franchise, Visual Image. The two would remain partners in business and leading characters in their own daily sitcom until his death.

In 2003, he married the love of his life Tu Nguyen Holman, making regular trips to Vietnam part of their lives. They first lived between the historic photo studio on Bockman Way and helping to care for his beloved mother. Later, they purchased a house and a piece of land, in Lebanon. They made home there with his brother, Paul, raised chickens and miniature cattle. He assisted Tu in creating a successful and thriving alteration business.

Donald took his role as a citizen and neighbor seriously. He showed up. He carried his end of the load and sometime yours. He believed in solving problems. He loved the land, carrying on his father's pride in a well-groomed pasture of fat cattle and living out his mother's passion for garden-fresh, homecooked food served on a table crowded with friends and family. He never shied away from a good argument. His word mattered to him.

He served as chairman of the White County Republican Party and served on the White County Election Commission. His practical, plain-spoken way of framing issues made him a favorite contributor to the Sparta Expositor and other publications and a trusted advisor to numerous political and public figures.

He had a storyteller's smile, the eyes of a friend, and a perfectly husky voice that seemed always able to hit the tenor notes if he stretched his neck and leaned just right.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Tu Holman, with whom he shared the 20 best years of his life. He leaves behind his brothers, Dan and Paul Holman, and his sisters, Kay Walker, Brenda Reed, and Rebecca Smith, along with a host of in-laws, nieces, nephews, and dear friends. He joins his parents and his brothers, Kenneth and Phillip Holman, in a circle that will be reunited "some day after 'while.'"

The family wishes to express their sincere gratitude to Donald's nephews, Jesse and Bennett Holman, his brother, Paul Holman, and his sisters, Becky Smith and Kay Walker, who were endlessly helpful and unselfishly caring in his final days.

We grieve, but not as "those who have no hope." Donald leaves behind a testimony that he has made everything right between he and the Lord. He can no longer come to us, but we can go to him.

Amongst Donald's best and rarest qualities was his capacity for forgiveness. If you knew Donald and want to honor his memory, think of someone who used to be close and find it in your heart to forgive and love them again.

We'll all see you at the "Big House," Donald. Rest well sweet brother.

Funeral service was 2 p.m., Jan. 14, 2024, at Plainview Freewill Baptist Church, with burial in Plainview Cemetery.

WILLIAM WAYNE MULLICAN

William Wayne Mullican, 73, passed away from his earthly home, surrounded by his family, on a snowy Jan. 15, 2024, at his residence.

Wayne is the son of William Austin and Doris Dimple Hutson Mullican.

Wayne met the love of his life in high school, Janet Henry Mullican; the two celebrated 53 years of marriage in June. He was a member of White County High School Class of 1969. Wayne loved to sing gospel music and was a song leader in several local churches throughout his life. He also participated in the weekly singing, on Monday, at Life Care Center of Sparta before COVID. Wayne was a member of Pistole Baptist Church. Anyone who knew him knew he had a strong faith in God and would share his love for God with you. He worked at Mallory Timers for over 25 years and started Mullican Machine & Tool Company, in 1984. Wayne was involved in the North End Volunteer Fire Department in the 1980's-90's. He was a current member of the White County 911 Board.

Wayne's greatest joys came from serving his Lord Jesus Christ and spending time with his wife, Janet, and their three children (spouses), and eight grandchildren. He enjoyed fellowshiping with



his friends and church family.

Wayne was preceded in death by his parents; his grandparents, William Clyde and Odessa Jones Mullican, Winnie Grider Hutson, and Lemon Hutson; and his father-in-law and mother-in-law, L.D. and Bertie Henry.

Wayne is survived by his wife Janet, and their children: Tracy Mullican Prater (Darrin), of Sparta, Terry Mullican (Leslie), of Cookeville, Tim Mullican (Michelle), of Sparta; his grandchildren, Chase Mullican, Denton Prater, John Prater, Allison "Alii" Mullican, Leah Mullican, Sarah Mullican, Callie Prater, Molly Mullican; his sisters, Sharon Mullican Buckner (Gary), Regina Mullican Wilhite, Annette Mullican England (Manuel); brothers-in-law, Buddy Henry (Joyce), Ricky Henry (Judy); sister-in-law, Paulette Henry Dycus (Charles); and nieces and nephews. Wayne is survived by a huge circle of loving friends and family (too many to mention).

Funeral service was 2 p.m., Jan. 21, 2024, at Oak Lawn Funeral Home, with burial in Saylor's Cemetery. Devin Henry and Clint Walker officiated.

Pallbearers were Chase Mullican, Denton Prater, John Prater, Verble Wilson, Luke Dycus, and J.R. Jensen.

Honorary pallbearers were James Pitman, Dale Clouse, and Denny Robinson.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Pistole Baptist Church, in Sparta, Tennessee, or Saylor's Cemetery, C/O Terry Mullican or online at saylorscemetery.com.

Oak Lawn Funeral Home
was in charge of arrangements.



MARK SAMUEL HICKS

Mark Samuel Hicks, 66, of Sparta, passed away Jan. 14, 2024, at Cookeville Regional Medical Center.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a future date.

Hooper, Huddleston & Horner Funeral Homes
Cookeville Chapel was in charge of arrangements.



DONNIE HOWARD
MAY 28, 1958-JAN. 16, 2024

Jeffrey Don Howard, affectionately known as Donnie, 65, of Sparta, passed away Jan. 16, 2024, at Alive Hospice of Murfreesboro.

Donnie was born May 28, 1958, in Sparta, to Woodrow Wilson and Elizabeth Louine Tindell Howard. He was an over-the-road truck driver for over 40 years. His career as a truck driver took him from coast to coast many times over. In his younger years, he enjoyed fishing with his sons.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Benny Howard; a niece; and two nephews.

Survivors include his wife, Sherry Howard, of Sparta; two sons and their spouses, Morgan and Shayna Howard, of Atlanta, Georgia, Jesse and Kara Howard, of Soddy Daisy; grandchildren, Jack, Eliza and Lane Howard; siblings and their spouses, Woody and Linda Howard, of Sparta, Linda and James Smith, of Cookeville, Judy and Clayburn Dunn, Sady and Jana Howard, Wildred and David Vidrine, Terry and Buffy Howard, all of Sparta; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral service was 1 p.m., Jan. 21, 2024, at Hunter Funeral Home, with burial in Saylor's Cemetery. James Collier officiated.

Lamar Smith, Jeremy Szilveszter, Shane Dunn, Andy Howard, Jared Howard, Dale England, Jim Usrey, and Rick Kidd served as pallbearers.

Hunter Funeral home
was in charge of arrangements.



JUANITA EMERSON MESSENGER
DEC. 9, 1924-JAN. 20, 2024

Juanita Messenger passed to her eternal home, at NHC Healthcare of Sparta, on Jan. 20, 2024.

Juanita was born Dec. 9, 1924, in Cookeville, to Bertha Goolsby Emerson and Jesse Steve Emerson.

She was retired from the garment industry. She was a member of First Baptist Church. She and her best friend, Rosalie Beck, dedicated their retirement years to volunteer service for the church. She was very fond of her Sunday School teacher, Carolyn Walker, who makes these ladies feel so special. We would like to thank Carolyn and her son, Brad, for being so helpful to her during her final days. Also thank you to NHC for the care given to her.

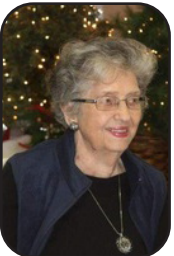
In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her beloved son, Terry Messenger; two brothers, Steve Emerson, Gene Emerson; a sister, Jessie Warden; and a nephew, Fred Warden.

She is survived by her son, Bruce Messenger; daughter and son-in-law, Suzanne and Bill Worrell; grandchildren, Melanie (Darrell) Goodwin, Marcie (Stan) Kinnard, Mark Messenger, Dara (Tim) Sykes, Paige Worrell; eight great-grandchildren; daughter-in-law, Connie Messenger; and two special nephews, Tim Emerson and Kurt Messenger.

Funeral service will be 1 p.m., Jan. 26, 2024, at First Baptist Church of Sparta, with burial in Oak Lawn Cemetery. The family will receive friends 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Jan. 26, at the church. Brad Walker will officiate.

Serving the family as pallbearers are Edd Cantrell, Mark Messenger, Stan Kinnard, Tim Emerson, Mike Maughon, and Wayne Mitchell.

Hunter Funeral Home
is in charge of arrangements.



WRITE US A LETTER

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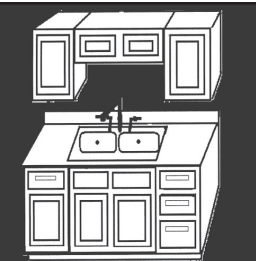
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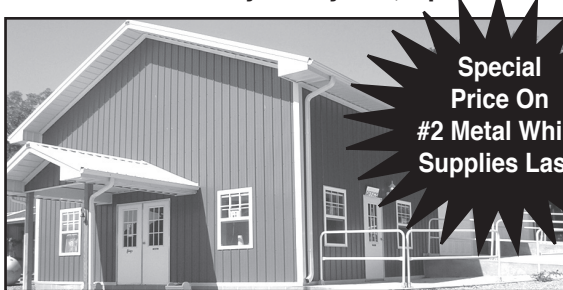
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ARRESTS 01.08.2024-01.21.2024



•ALLEN, LISA LYNN; violation of probation, 01.16.2024



•BALLARD, CODY CARL; fugitive from justice, 01.13.2024



•BARR, LYNN ALISON; driving with license cancelled/revoked/suspended, 01.10.2024



•BILLINGS, TRACY LEE; attachment for child support, 01.17.2024



•CUNNINGHAM, HAROLD EUGENE; failure to appear, 01.08.2024



•FAY, KEVIN THOMAS; failure to appear, 01.11.2024



•GEORGE, SUMOR LYNN; vehicular homicide, vehicular homicide by intoxication, 01.09.2024



•GOOD, MICHAEL LANE; violation of probation, 01.09.2024



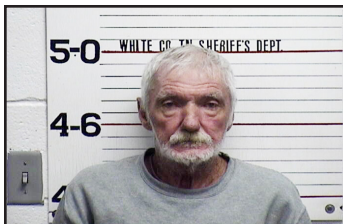
•HUDSON, CHERYL O'DELL; violation of probation (two counts), 01.09.2024



•JONES, JOSHUA TIMOTHY; attachment for child support, 01.08.2024



•JUDD, MICHAEL THOMAS; failure to appear driving on cancelled/revoked/suspended license w/four priors, theft of property, possession drug paraphernalia, 01.09.2024



•MARSHALL, WADE DAN; driving w/o valid driver license, 01.20.2024



•MCMINN, NATHAN BRADLEY; theft of property, driving while cancelled/revoked/suspended, 01.11.2024



•MILLER, BRIANNA LEA; DUI, schedule VI simple possession, 01.08.2024



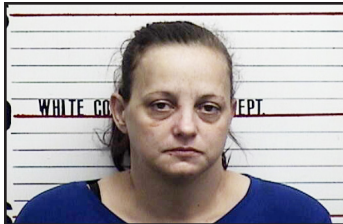
•PARRISH, AARON CHRISTOPHER; failure to appear, evading arrest, resist stop/frisk/halt/arrest/search, 01.20/2024



•PIPPIN, ZACHARY SETH; failure to appear, 01.11.2024



•SIMMONS, RICHARD SETH; simple possession schedule VI, schedule II (meth) possession w/intent manufacture/sell/deliver, schedule III possession, driving with license cancelled/revoked/suspended, 01.21.2024



•SLATTON, KEISHA SUE; reckless endangerment, domestic assault, aggravated arson, vandalism, 01.09.2024



•SPARKMAN, LESLIE ANNE; resist stop/frisk/halt/arrest/search, 01.10.2024



•SPARKMAN, SCOTT MARTIN; schedule II possession, DUI, resist stop/frisk/halt/arrest, open container law, contraband in penal facility, 01.10.2024



•WILLIAMS, CALEB JESSIE; domestic assault, 01.19.2024

This page contains photos of individuals who have been arrested recently in White County. All information is public record of the State of Tennessee. All individuals are innocent until proven guilty.

OPINION

Understanding why the Civil War was really about slavery

Last week, I presented several primary source documents demonstrating that - at the time the Civil War started - Confederate government officials were clearly saying that protecting slavery and white supremacy was the reason the Southern states seceded and formed a new government and the reason they were prepared to fight. Now I am going to explain WHY that was.

First, as most readers are aware, Lincoln stated clearly that he did NOT want to end slavery in the South. What was the problem, then? The big argument was whether slavery would be permitted in NEW states in the West. Why would Northerners not want slavery to "spread?"

Two main reasons, neither of which was tied to fighting racism or protecting Black people. First, the political: due to the 3/5ths Compromise, slave states could count 60 percent of their slave population toward their state population in the question of how many House of Representatives members that state could have. This meant that Southern states wound up having significantly more Congressional representation than was warranted by the actual number of CITIZENS they had, which gave them a lot of political power in Washington. More new slave states would mean more new pro-slavery, pro-South members of Congress, in both houses (as each new state gets two Senators, as well - and this combined number is how we come up with how many electoral votes each state has).

Second, the economic: peo-

Troy Smith



Guest Columnist

A LIBERAL DOSE

White County native, novelist, and history professor

ple in the North, by the 1850s, were championing what historian Eric Foner has called Free Labor Ideology. This does NOT mean you're getting labor done for free - rather, it is the belief that the labor of free people, performed for wages, is superior to slave labor because it protects and improves the position of white working-class people. Where you have African slavery, white people's labor is not in demand. Further, if a new state allowed slavery, all the best land would be bought up by plantation owners - which would hurt poor-and-working-class white people who hoped to claim small parcels of land for individual farms and would also hurt those same people if they wanted instead to get a job in industry. While there were lots of abolitionists in the North, they were never in the majority (and were often hated, even beaten or killed, by their neighbors). The only racial concern most white Northerners had... was protecting the interests of their own, and that meant preventing the spread of slavery.

Why were southerners so worried about being able to spread slavery? Two reasons. One, the political: if a bunch of new states form, and they

do NOT have slavery, southerners would find themselves outnumbered in Congress, and one day Congress could ban slavery. Second, the economic: slavery existed, by the mid-19th century, primarily to support cotton agriculture and give planters higher profits by having cheaper labor costs. However, so much cotton was being grown in the South that the soil was becoming moribund. Everyone knew you SHOULD rotate your crops or rest your fields, but nobody was willing to be the one to do it - and lose a year's worth of cotton profit for that field. The fields, therefore, were "drying up." The planter class needed NEW lands, for new fields, to plant more cotton (using slave labor, if they wanted to maintain their profit margins). So, in their thinking, if slavery was blocked from spreading to the West, the lifestyle of planters would become unsustainable. Merely blocking slavery, to them, was an attempt to kill it.

In the 1850s, Southern Congressmen pushed for laws that enabled the federal government to force free states to help catch runaway slaves, whether they wanted to or not. They also opposed laws that would allow each new state to take a vote on whether to have slavery or not. Southerners wanted to force them to have slavery. Where's the states' rights in either of those things?

-Troy D. Smith, a White County native, is a novelist and a history professor at Tennessee Tech and serves on the executive committee of the Tennessee Democratic Party. His words do not necessarily represent TTU.

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PROPANE

outlook on

Agriculture

Livestock market highlights

By Dr. Andrew Griffith
Livestock Marketing Specialist
U.T. Institute of Agriculture
Jan. 19, 2024

FED CATTLE: Fed cattle trade was not well established this week. Asking prices on a live basis were mainly \$175 while asking prices on a dressed basis were mainly \$275.

The 5-area weighted average prices through Thursday were \$172.29 live, down \$2.03 compared to last week and \$273.00 dressed, down \$0.63 from a week ago. A year ago, prices were \$155.07 live and \$248.01 dressed.

Finished cattle trade has been practically non-existent this week as the weather has been the main story of the week. Many packers are likely focusing on cattle that are already contracted for slaughter instead of purchasing on the spot market since they are likely already behind on moving cattle through the system.

If packers are in fact behind on moving cattle through the system then their interest in securing more cattle the next couple of weeks may be minimal. This will keep the weekly negotiated trade at a minimum until they work through the market ready cattle. At the same time, packers must remember that finished weights will likely be lighter due to the weather impact on growing cattle.

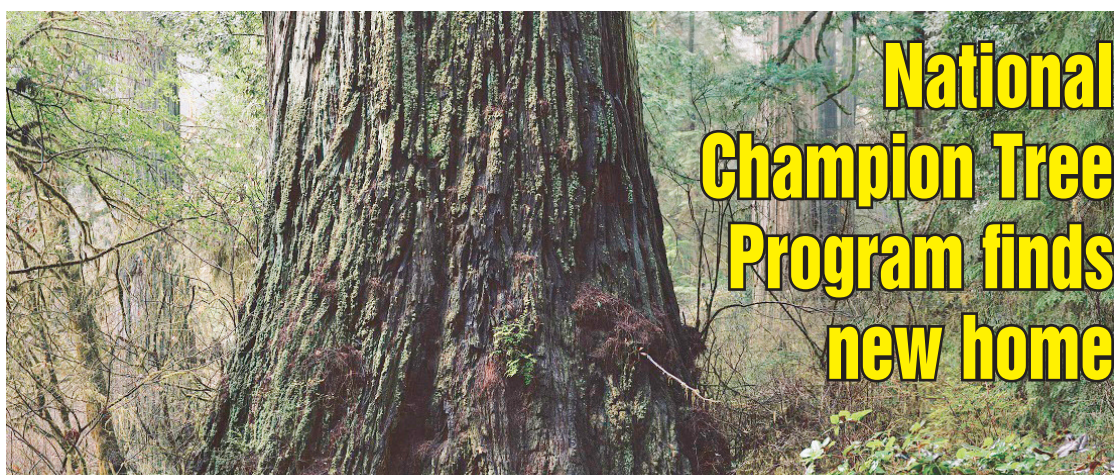
BEEF CUTOUT: At midday Friday, the Choice cutout was \$295.95 down \$0.34 from Thursday and up \$6.37 from a week ago. The Select cutout was \$284.95 up \$1.19 from Thursday and up \$12.93 from last week. The Choice Select spread was \$11.00

compared to \$17.56 a week ago.

Much of the country and many of its population centers have been impacted by the polar vortex this week. It has brought extremely cold temperatures, snow, and ice. These conditions make it difficult for cattle feeders and packers to move cattle for harvest and to get meat to the store shelves in some instances. Similarly, many consumers will burrow into their hole called home and only emerge for necessities when the temperatures reach these extremely low levels. In the broadest sense, it is likely less meat is consumed during these weather conditions than when conditions are favorable to consumers moving about their normal activities. Despite the reduction in consumption, production is also being influenced in a negative manner. More normal production and consumption of beef will return to the marketplace once extreme weather conditions subside. Consumers will likely keep their focus on end meats through February. When the Choice Select spread begins to widen again then the market will know the focus is moving back to middle meats.

OUTLOOK: It is extremely difficult to establish price trends for livestock when auctions were canceled due to the winter precipitation that has blanketed the area for a full week. For most cattle producers in Tennessee, there was no feasible way to get cattle to a market. Similarly, it would have been just as difficult for someone to be at the market to purchase an animal and transport it to its new home. Given the extremely low temperatures are expected to persist through Mon-

day morning and the forecast is filled with rain next week, it is unlikely price trends will be able to be established next week due to limited marketing of animals. If this expectation comes to fruition, then January 2024 will likely have some of the lowest cattle marketings on record for the state due to two weeks of essentially no trade. This does have implications in that some producers had intentions of marketing calves to start the year and have not had that opportunity. Thus, the flood gates will open when the weather permits and there should be a large quantity of calves making their way to town in February. Thus, the stream of calves may flow from February through April as the March and April crowd will be looking to push their calves through the grass fever market. Despite all these expectations, most producers are simply trying to keep enough feed in front of animals to keep them warm in the midst of the low temperatures as well as keep fresh water available. Given the production challenges, few producers have been pondering markets. Considering the futures market, January feeder cattle futures topped out just above \$268 in the middle of September before bottoming around \$210 the first week of December. The \$58 decline in price expectation for feeder cattle was a tough pill to swallow, but the market has trudged its way back to the low \$230s this week. That may not seem like much of a win, but it does indicate traders overreacted as those commonly do. It may be tough to challenge contract highs for feeder cattle during the spring contracts.



National
Champion Tree
Program finds
new home

(Jan. 19, 2024) - The National Champion Tree Program started 83 years ago at American Forests to discover the largest, living trees in the United States. Now, the program is moving from the organization's headquarters to a new home in the School of Natural Resources at the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture (UTIA).

American Forests launched the Champion Tree Program in 1940. Its vision included establishing a nationwide laboratory for the study of forestry and trees. Being housed at Tennessee's 1862 public land-grant university will advance the program's understanding of big trees. "The National Champion Tree Program moving to UTIA means it can continue protecting some of the largest living organisms in the U.S. while expanding the science of these trees through research," Keith Carver, senior vice chancellor and senior vice president of the UT Institute of Agriculture said.

"We could not be happier that the University of Tennessee's School of Natural Resources will honor the rich legacy of the National Champion Tree Program and introduce innovative new ideas, energy and science," said Jad Daley, president and CEO of American Forests. "We also honor the thousands of tree seekers, coordinators and others nationwide who have passionately supported this program and will help it embark on a new era embedded in one of America's leading research

institutions." American Forests is providing \$200,000 through April 2025 to support the program's transition to the School.

Former Tennessee Champion Tree Program Director and UT graduate Jaq Payne will lead the national program as the newly appointed director. He believes UTIA is uniquely positioned to be a hub for Champion Tree research. "Through the university's exceptional research capabilities, we'll learn more about these gentle giants, how best to preserve their majesty for future generations and how to help our newly planted trees become future champions," Payne said.

The School also directs the state Champion Tree Program. Payne took it over in 2021. The Tennessee Department of Agriculture Division of Forestry managed the program until 2016, when it was transferred to the School. "Under the School's management, Tennessee's state program has evolved to be one of the best-managed Champion Tree programs in the nation," former Tennessee State Forester David Arnold said before retiring from his position in early January 2024. "The School now has the honor of managing the National Champion Tree Program. It is exciting to realize the program that identifies the largest representative of individual tree species for the nation resides in Tennessee."

Urban Forestry Professor Sharon Jean-Philippe advises the Tennessee Champion Tree Program and helped with mov-

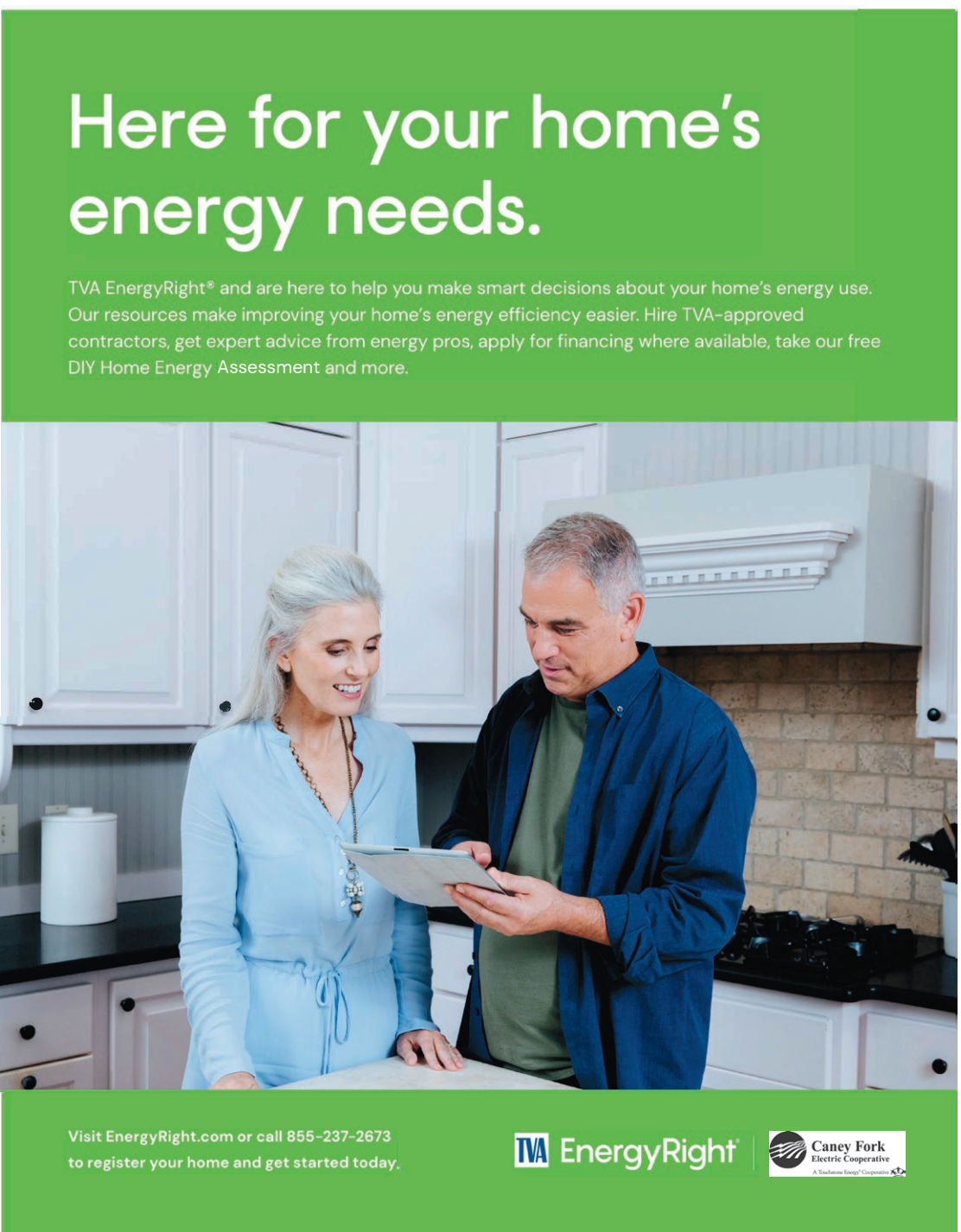
ing the national program to UT. She said it is an honor for the School to host both programs and to have Payne, her former master's student and now graduate, be the national director. Jean-Philippe added, "Developing opportunities for students to apply what they have learned in the classroom to real-life situations is an important part of the high-impact educational practices we provide through academic internships."

The national program started publishing a list of Champion Trees in 1945. Today's National Register of Champion Trees lists 561 species found across the U.S. from the General Sherman Sequoia in California to a 90-foot-tall white oak in Virginia. The tradition of finding and monitoring these large organisms will continue. "We're excited to advance the legacy of the Champion Tree Program and administer this important and historical program for the entire country," Don Hodges, School of Natural Resources Director, said.

The program identifies Champion Trees based on a point system. The trunk circumference, height and average crown spread make up the total points for a Champion Tree. The current register is being updated and will be published in late 2024. The first round of public nominations for new Champion Trees will open in the spring of 2025. You can find a full breakdown of the timeline on the program's website: nationalchampiontree.org.

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THIS WEEK IN WHITE COUNTY HISTORY: JANUARY 28-FEBRUARY 3



WHITE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING CLASS OF 1922

- 2014**
- Northfield Elementary student Lilly Davis won fifth in the Regional Market Hog Show and both a first-place ribbon and another fifth in the state show that took place in Murfreesboro.
 - White County Executive Herd Sullivan signed a proclamation declaring February as Spay Month-White County as the White County Humane Society encouraged residents to have their pets spayed and/or neutered.
 - Becky Clouse Simmons was chosen by 13 members of the White County Board of Commissioners to fill the seat that was left vacant when Paul Bailey was appointed as the 43rd District State Representative.

- 2004**
- Dan and Chris Felton were selected as the White County Soil Conservation District Farmers of the Year. The brothers’ farming operation consisted of 628 acres, including 442 acres of corn, 37 acres of wheat and oats for hay, and 549 acres of pastureland.
 - Robert Knight and Jerry Don Nash were honored as a sign was hung in the corner of Roy Sewell Gymnasium to designate the corner where the radio broadcast originates as Knight and Nash Corner.
 - Kyle Delaney and Ashley Wilhite were voted the 2003-04 White County Middle School Mr. and Miss Basketball.

- 1994**
- Tim Lewis and Andrea Baldwin were selected as Mr. and Miss Basketball for White County High School.
 - White County High School was the site of a program which allowed students to see how slow their reaction times would be if they had attempted to drive while intoxicated. A computer simulator was used to slow the braking and steering response times as students rode through a course with traffic safety cones taking the place of on the road obstacles.
 - The Chamber of Commerce spotlighted Scepter Hardwoods as their Member of the Month.

- 1984**
- White County’s Lenora Frances Hickey was named the 1984 Fairest of the Fair for the State of Tennessee and Kelly Lynn Sayre finished in the top 15 finalists.
 - A front-end loader was used to help investigators sift through the ruins of the former Factory Furniture Outlet store on N Spring Street to find the cause of a fire that had destroyed the building.
 - The Harlem Wizards visited White County High School as part of the 1983-84 World Tour.

- 1974**
- Beverly Randolph, of Sparta, was announced as the top 4-H member of the week.
 - Hundreds of White Countians visited Sparta’s new Fire House No. 1 and were able to tour the hall, including checking out the living quarters for firefighters and viewing the city’s new truck.
 - Marilyn McConnell was named teacher of the year by White County Education Association members.



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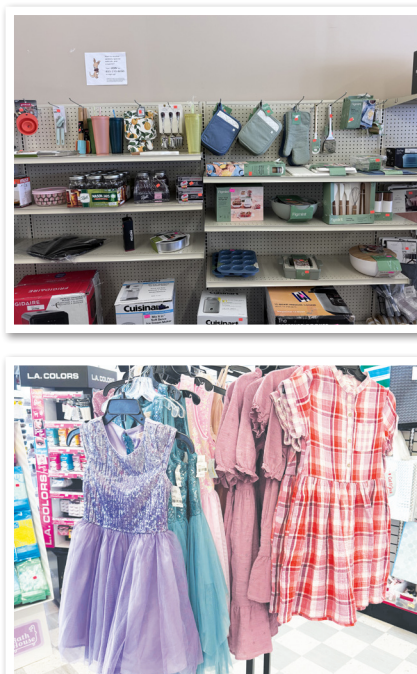
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Warriors and Warriorettes split with Stone Memorial

PHILLIP HENSLEY

Sports Contributor

On Jan. 9, the Stone Memorial Panthers came to town and took on the Warriors and Warriorettes in an early district contest. The Warriorettes played first in what was an extremely competitive game from start to finish.

The Warriorettes got off to a good start ending the first quarter with a 5-point lead. The second quarter, however, went in favor of Stone Memorial who made up those 5 points plus 5 more to take a 26-21 lead over the Warriorettes going into halftime.

The Warriorettes answered in the third quarter, tying the game up going into the final quarter of the game.

The fourth quarter saw Stone Memorial stretch the lead back out to 5, but the Warriorettes showed resilience battling back. With 40 seconds left and down by 4, Sophomore Bella Winningham hit a huge 3-point shot to bring the Warriorettes within 1, making the score 48-49. Stone Memorial added two free throws to stretch the lead to 48-51 with 35 seconds left. On the in-bounding play, the Warriorettes tried to get an open look but turned the ball over without

taking a shot with 15 seconds left and, unfortunately, never got another chance. The Warriorettes fell to Stone Memorial 48-51.

Junior Ava Jones led the Warriorettes with 20 points and was a perfect 6-6 from the free throw line. Senior Celeste Reed scored 8 and led the Warriorettes with 14 rebounds and three blocked shots. Bella Winningham scored 9 points and had three steals.

Game two featured the Panthers and Warriors squaring off in what was also a very competitive game that had six lead changes. With about three-and-half minutes to play in the first half, the Warriors were down by 12. After a few made free throws and a drive-in traffic that resulted in 2 points by freshman

Cole Sims, the Warriors ended the half down only seven with a score of 16-23.

When the second half began, the Warriors took control and never relinquished it. It wasn't easy, but the Warriors went on to handle the Panthers and send them back up the mountain with a loss. The final score was 57-50.

Freshman Cole Sims had a game leading the Warriors with 21 points shooting 4-7 from beyond the arc and a perfect 5-5 from the free throw line. He also pulled down six boards, had two assists, and three steals. Junior Tripp Pinion scored 19, secured three rebounds, made four assists, and had two steals on the night. Junior Gage Stephenson scored 10 points and led the Warriors with nine rebounds.





Photo by Thomas Corhern

Tech tripped up by Vanderbilt in Sunday's Music City tangle

By Dylan Vazzano

TTU Sports Information

(Jan. 21, 2024) - The Tennessee Tech tennis team's second tussle with an SEC foe in 2024 swung in favor of Vanderbilt, as the Golden Eagles were up-ended 7-0 in Sunday's meeting in Nashville.

The Commodores (3-0) claimed all six solo get-togethers, with two of Tech's six finding a way to force a third set. After pushing the proceedings

to a third in set in TTU's season opener at No. 6 Tennessee, Lucas Bitzer once again participated in a third set in Sunday's No. 4 battle. Bitzer secured a 6-3 initial set against Nathan Cox, before the Golden Eagle freshman out of Zurich, Switzerland was downed 6-4 in the second set and 6-2 in the third.

Darek Kuczynski suffered a similar fate in his No. 6 clash with Alexandre Hillhouse after Kuczynski picked up a 6-3 first-set triumph. Hillhouse

would respond behind a 6-2 second-set nod and an abbreviated 10-4 third-set win to put the finishing touches on Vandy's victory.

The Dores enjoyed front line singles success over Tech (0-2) with straight-set triumphs in the top three spots. Joubert Kloppe notched a 6-0, 6-0 win over Murilo Burckhart in the No. 1 tilt, while Danil Panarin picked up a 6-0, 6-2 victory against Alex Alvarez in

TTU 4A

White County Warriors and Warriorettes win one and lose one with Livingston Academy

PHILLIP HENSLEY

Sports Contributor

The White County High School basketball teams traveled to Livingston, on Jan. 22, to take on another district foe, the Livingston Academy Wildcats. As is customary, the Warriorettes played first followed by the Warriors. Because of the inclement weather, both teams hadn't played a game since Jan. 12 and didn't have opportunities to even practice. Needless to say, some rust was to be expected.

The Warriorettes got off to a great start and ended the first quarter up 19-7 and didn't look like a team who hadn't practiced or played in over a week. The second quarter, however, was the complete opposite as LA got hot and pulled within one. The half ended with the Warriorettes up 29-28. The third quarter saw both teams jab at each other, figuratively speaking, with the Warriorettes taking a 5-point advantage heading into the final quarter of the game. The Warriorettes put it away in the fourth, stretching their lead

to 12 and ending the game with a final score of 56-44.

Sophomore Bella Winningham played a great game on both sides of the ball, leading the Warriorettes with 20 points and four steals to go along with her two assists and two blocked shots. Senior Celeste Reed logged another stellar performance scoring 16, leading the team with nine rebounds, making three assists, snatching three steals, and blocking a shot. Junior Ava Jones scored 11 points, had four boards, one assist, two steals, and led the

team with five blocked shots. Sophomore Gracie Clark scored 7, pulled down five rebounds, and had two steals.

In the nightcap, the Warriors looked to stay undefeated in district play as they ventured into enemy territory. This was a game that the layoff seemed to have an effect on. The Warriors got off to a very slow start, scoring only 4 points in the first quarter, and you got a sense they just needed to shake some rust off to get going, and they would. The first quarter ended with the Warriors down 4-15.

After that, though, the Warriors matched the Wildcats quarter for quarter, but, ultimately, it was not enough as a result of the first quarter hole they had to climb out of. The game ended with a final score of 61-49 in favor of the Wildcats.

Junior Tripp Pinion played a good game leading the Warriors with 18 points and three assists to go with his six rebounds and two steals. Sophomore Lucas Smith scored 13, had four boards, two assists, and two steals. Freshman Cole Sims scored 10, had seven rebounds,

one assist, one blocked shot, and one steal on the night. Junior Gage Stephenson scored 2, pulled down seven boards, had three assists, three steals, and a blocked shot.

The Warriorettes are now 20-2 overall and 3-1 in district play, putting them in second place behind Upperman who is 3-0. The Warriors fall to 8-8 overall and also 3-1 in district play. The Warriorettes and Warriors hosted Upperman, on Jan. 24. Results of this game will be published in the Feb. 1 edition of The Expositor.

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WHITE COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Photos by LINDA RICHARDSON





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TRUTH IN SCRIPTURE

David Wants to Fight Goliath

I Samuel 17

Jesse's three oldest sons were in Saul's army. Jesse sent David with roasted grain, and bread for his sons and ten cheeses to the commander of their unit.

As David visited with his brothers Goliath came out and shouted his defiance and the Israelite soldiers were fearful and ran from him.

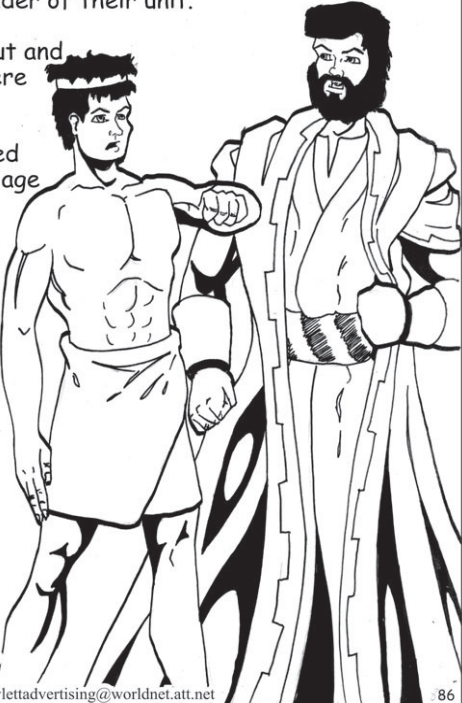
David learned that the reward to the one who killed Goliath was great wealth, Saul's daughter in marriage and his father's family being exempt from taxes.

Although his brother Eliab objected to David even talking about fighting Goliath, David kept on asking questions and word reached Saul. Saul sent for David to meet with him. Saul expressed his doubts that David could defeat Goliath.

David convinced Saul that his experiences of killing a lion and a bear that attacked his father's sheep prepared him for killing Goliath. He explained that killing Goliath would be no more difficult than killing the lion and the bear. David continued, "the lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."

Saul said to David, "Go, and the Lord be with you."

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For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Romans 6:23



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For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.
Romans 3:23

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CONTINUED FROM 1A
the No. 2 slot, and Juan Lopez earned a 6-1, 7-6 (7-5) decision over Paulo Ramos Martin in the No. 3 duel.

Jeremie Casabon was the fourth Commodore to capture a straight-set singles nod thanks to a 6-3-, 6-3 win against Davids Spaks in the No. 4 position.

Vandy began the affair by seizing the doubles point behind victories in the top two tangles. The nationally ranked, No. 59, Dore duo of Jeremie Casabon and Nathan Cox knocked off Lucas Bitzer and Davids Spaks

6-2 in the No. 1 get-together, while Joubert Klopper and Danil Panarin defeated Paulo Ramos Martin and Alex Alvarez 6-2 in the No. 2 spot.

The No. 3 matchup of Juan Lopez and Connor Robb-Wilcox against Darek Kuczynski and Murilo Burckhardt did not finish with the Vandy tandem leading 4-3 at the time it was called.

The Golden Eagles will prepare for their first non-SEC match of the spring with a Feb. 1 contest at UAB on the books in Birmingham. First serve is slated for 2 p.m. CT.



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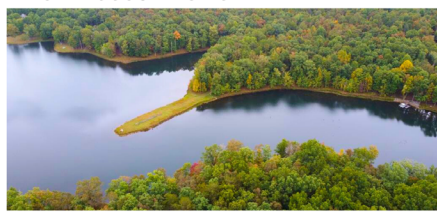


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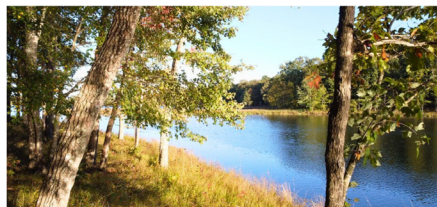
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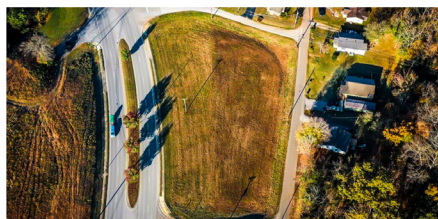
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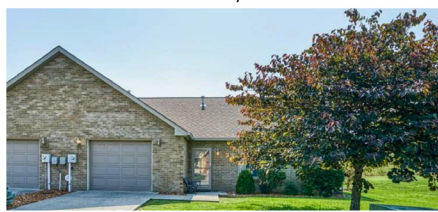
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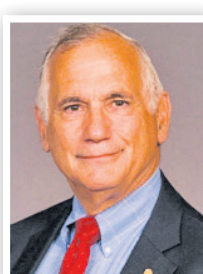
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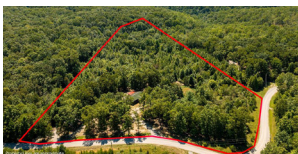
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National Handwriting Day - January 23

RACHEL AUBERGER
Staff Writer

In a world where technology is advancing rapidly and we have speak to text, the ability to send typed messages – many in what looks like some secret code filled with abbreviations, initials, and slang terms – at any moment thanks to phones that we keep at our fingertips 24/7, computers in virtually every classroom, the ability to host virtual meetings and video call friends, family, and colleagues across continents, and tablets being carried by children and adults alike, hand written messages and notes are becoming rare. But does it matter? If we can communicate with both those we need to and those we want to, do we need to worry about actual handwriting? How important is it in the scheme of education, employment, and life? On National Handwriting Day, let's chat with a local certified handwriting specialist: Jessica Wilson.

"Handwriting is a much more intrinsic and intricate part of learning that often becomes overlooked," Wilson, who has completed training through a curriculum, Handwriting Without Tears, that was developed by an Occupational Therapist to become a Certified Handwriting Specialist, said. "Take a moment to think of the common trades in our area. If you are a carpenter, you use a hammer well. If you are an architect, you use a ruler. If you are a nurse, you carry a stethoscope, and as a child, your number one tool is a pencil. However, the pencil often gets overlooked."

Wilson said the foundations for handwriting should start before a child even enters kindergarten and meeting these prerequisites will set them up for academic success.

"Between the ages of 3 and 5, a child is learning how to hold a pencil correctly, how to color with endurance, tracing within boundaries and learning pre-handwriting strokes in order to upgrade to copying letters/numbers," Wilson said. "A child is also learning how to place a paper correctly and how to hold their paper for stabilization with

their helper hand."

Wilson said there are several pre-handwriting strokes that are necessary before a child begins attempting to form letters and practicing simple shapes such as lines and circles is an important step before transitioning to forming letters and numbers.

"During this stage, I work on 'pinching' strength to facilitate a proper handwriting grasp, as well as how to pick a pencil up with one hand only and flipping the pencil so that it sits nicely on the web space of a child's hand needed for stabilization of the pencil," Wilson said.

She also stated by the time a child reaches the age of 5 or 6, a pencil grip and dominant hand have already been picked. If their pencil grip has not been corrected, it is rare that even a specialist such as herself can change it.

"It is critical that a child learns how to hold a pencil correctly as this will control how deeply a child pushes a pencil into the paper, how well a child can control their pencil manage letter sizing and line orientation (writing letters on the line) and how quickly a child can write, also known as pencil fluency," Wilson said.

Wilson said only after a child has met the prerequisites for handwriting are they ready to begin imitating letters – and it is best to start with upper case letters as these are more easily created than lower case letters which require a higher level of complexity of strokes to form.

"I then transition to adapted paper that includes gray block boxes and a start dot to assist in the child developing the appropriate strategies needed for academic success," Wilson said.

Wilson said she teaches her students to always start letters at the top and sequence a letter during formation that focuses on the pencil not being removed from the paper, decreasing segmentation and increasing fluidity.

"When a child needs to pick up their pencil multiple times to make a letter (segmentation), this decreases the legibility as it looks like the child attempted to put the pieces of a letter together like a puzzle. This is why it is so important to teach letter



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start (pencil at the top) and letter sequencing (how the letter is formed once the pencil touches the paper)," she said,.

Only after letter start and letter sequencing are established does Wilson focus on letter sizing – which she says depends on the grade level and age of the child – and where a letter sits on the line. According to Sparta's handwriting specialist, both components are more easily corrected and typically just require visual and verbal redirections until good habits are developed.

"Last but not least, I look at lead pressure (how deeply a child pushes into the paper) and

pencil fluidity (how fast a child writes)," she said. "Remember when I talked about how important it was for a child to learn the correct grasping pattern? These two items are a good reason why it is necessary to have a good grasp. Some children, including myself, demonstrate an inappropriate grasping pattern and therefore it causes the child to push so deeply into the paper which leads to hand pain, fatigue, and the risk of contractures, and on the opposite end, some children push so lightly that one can barely see their writing. When a child has a grasp that is not functional, it can also lead to poor speed, and when a child has poor speed, it is difficult to keep up with the teacher during class lessons."

Wilson said as a parent she encourages other parents to start helping their children learn the skills needed for handwriting sooner rather than later. She said that her own son began tracing, copying, coloring, and mastering pinch strength between the

ages of 3 and 4, and the result was before he began kindergarten, he could copy both upper- and lower-case letters.

"We only spent 15 minutes a day, three to four times a week practicing," she said.

Wilson said using the Learning Without Tears curriculum made the work fun by using a sensory-based approach that didn't require constantly practicing on paper.

"We used markers or chalk and practiced on boards. We drew letters in the sand or molded letters with Play-Doh. We made learning fun, and it's the same approach I used during my tutoring sessions."

Wilson meets with children whose parents are interested in helping them improve their academic standings through focusing on their handwriting once a week. While the 30-minute sessions are geared toward the student's individual needs, she said she spends the last five minutes of each session on parent education so they can help their child practice at home.

"Repetition is key when learning a new skill or when trying to develop new habits and breaking old habits that were established," she said.

Wilson said it is necessary to practice for 10-15 minutes at least three to four times a week to be successful.

Wilson said she would love to see cursive writing come back to schools as a standard as it provides benefits that could help a child master legibility in their writing.

"Cursive writing has been shown to increase a child's reading, writing, and math skills as it challenges the brain to think continuously and decreased the child removing their pencil from the paper as often," Wilson said. "It has also shown to assist with legibility for children with dysgraphia and dyspraxia."

Wilson listed several handwriting myths and why she feels they need to be dispelled:

Handwriting myths:

1. I think my child is dyslexic because they are writing their numbers and letters backwards.

FALSE-It is age appropriate to write letters/numbers backwards until age 8.

2. There's nothing to be done to help my child have better lead pressure.

FALSE- A quick fix is to use mechanical pencils, as these break more easily, and a child will often automatically decrease pressure to not break the lead.

3. My child writes slowly and can't keep up in class.

FALSE- There are many

things to assist in pencil speed including pinching strength pencil drills, adding timers, and decreasing segmentation by improving pencil start and letter sequencing

4. Kindergartners need to use regular pencils.

FALSE- Golf pencils are more appropriate for Pre-K and Kindergarten children as it helps reduce the weight of a pencil, assists with a better grasp, and increases the likelihood of increased mechanics of utilizing a pencil.

5. Handwriting is outdated.

FALSE-Research by Harvard University says differently. They tested the same class but divided them in two. The first half was asked to handwrite their work. The second half typed. Twenty-four hours later they tested them. Those that handwrote remembered more. This is because the physical act of writing engages a different part of the brain to recall information than listening and typing.

Wilson said that there is more of a need for emphasis on the mechanics of how to use and hold a pencil in the last several years as technology has become more readily available for young children.

"I have seen handwriting grasps match how a child holds a tablet, phone, or gaming controls as the child uses all five fingers to hold the pencil at a much later age," she said. "Children are also on a computer at a much younger age in school, some starting in kindergarten, which takes away the importance of the pencil and paper relationship."

"A child's 'job' is to learn from kindergarten through 12th grade, even beyond to college and trade school, their main tool is a pencil and paper," she reiterated, saying the earlier a child starts mastering all skills necessary for academic success, the better. "When we are writing essays and sentences, when we are able to write without thinking of the mechanics of handwriting, we are better able to clearly demonstrate our thoughts, analyze our opinions, and formulate creating writing necessary for academic success."

But handwriting transcends the walls of academia and is important outside of school settings as well.

"It is a lifelong skill we often look over, and yet it can begin at age 3," Wilson concludes. "When it comes to retaining new information, it is often best if it is written down, as this helps our brain develop new pathways for learning,"

Pencil Perfect

Handwriting Without Tears Curriculum



One on One Instruction
Parent Consultation

Adaptive Techniques
Creative Approach

Pencil Perfect offers a variety of handwriting tutoring in private one on one or group sessions that occur 1-2x per week for 30 minutes. The students will be provided with a Handwriting Without Tears based booklet as well as other materials based on their individual needs.

Pre-Writing- The Pre-Writing Program is for children 3.5 or older. This program works on prerequisite skills for handwriting. Skills targeted: pencil grasp, letter/shape/number identification, coloring, replicating/tracing pre-writing lines, drawing shapes, replicating capital letters, and more!

Print- Skills targeted: pencil grasp, letter formation, letter memory, letter sizing, pencil start, line orientation, letter orientation (reversals), letter sequencing, handwriting speed, spacing between letters/words and overall legibility.

Cursive- Skills targeted: pre cursive strokes, cursive formation of upper and lower case letters, copying cursive to cursive, copying print to cursive, letter memory and identification of the upper and lower case alphabet, writing cursive words/sentences, and reading cursive writing.

Kindergarten Preparation Program- This program is targeted for the summer before your child begins Kindergarten and works on a variety of specific foundational skills that will be required of your upcoming Kindergartner. The program is Handwriting focused and we target additional skills such as letter/number/shape identification, pre-handwriting strokes, producing the upper and lower case alphabet with a model present, pencil grasp, and writing their first and last name from memory.

As a Certified Handwriting Specialist, endorsed through the Learning Without Tears curriculum, I specialize in meeting where your child's strengths are, and perfecting their skills needed for academic success. I am located in Sparta, T.N., and I am looking forward to serving the children of the Upper Cumberland.

The Expositor Your local news source

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FAITH

Have you entered into the treasures of the snow?

Job's question and description of snow as treasures got my attention many years ago. At my age, I no longer enjoy sledding or snowmen or snowball fights, but I appreciate the beauty and wonder of snow as much as ever I have. Anytime the ground is covered with several inches of the white fluffy stuff, wherever I am, my memory is stirred by the sight.

As a very young child, I recall knee-deep snow and frozen puddles in the yard; at least I recall some old black and white pictures. Of course, my knees were much closer to the ground back then.

Later, I camped in the snow and looked for rabbit tracks while packing a seldom fired shotgun. As a teenager, I sled-ded on the golf course at Madisonville City Park and slid down the hill of Boggess Boulevard in the same city, in western Kentucky.

Then there was the Greyhound bus trip back to Bowling Green - where I was a college student - from Nashville - where I had been to visit friends at Vandy. I remember drifts halfway up the fenceposts that lined US 31-W. So beautiful!

The deepest snow I ever experienced was in Chicago. Six of us, "preacher-boys," drove up to Moody Bible Institute for part of Founders Week - left after church on Wednesday night and took turns driving. When the sun came up in northwestern Indiana, we were driving through a snow-plow-created tunnel so high that we couldn't see the flat fields surrounding the highway. The snow was several feet deep, so much snow that the city of Chicago loaded empty train cars headed for the Deep South where it eventually melted. Seriously! The next week

Steve Playl



Playl's Ponderings

it snowed about a foot-and-a half-more, but we were back in Kentucky then and only saw the reports on TV.

Our first Christmas as husband and wife, Sammie and I celebrated with my parents in Madisonville, on Christmas Eve. We awoke to a white Christmas and drove nearly a hundred miles through several inches of ground cover to be with her family on Christmas Day. In places, ours was the first car on the road. No snowplows running either. One part of our trip that morning took us through a few miles where we had a hard time distinguishing the road from the shoulder...and the fields. We stayed in the middle and prayed a lot between Christmas carols. That white Christmas was especially celebrated because, at the time, we were living in New Orleans, and Nativity scenes under palm trees just didn't seem right...even if was, probably, a more accurate depiction of the first noel.

A couple years after that, we were in Michigan visiting Sammie's sister Johnsie and her family. It wasn't summer, so of course there was snow and lots of it. Several of us jumped on a toboggan, and, as we reached the bottom of the hill, we spilled all over each other with Sammie on the bottom of the pile. Fortunately, she was not hurt. We learned a few weeks later that, at the time, she was already pregnant with our first daughter. Fortunately, she was not

hurt either. God is good.

Our first winter in Bristol was an unusually snowy winter. Loving the beauty of the snow but also a little weary of the low temps and inconvenience, we welcomed spring. As March ended and our son's first birthday, on April 1st, drew nigh, we borrowed a van and drove to my hometown in western Kentucky. Returning on April Fool's Day we heard radio announcers in Nashville broadcasting an expected snowstorm in East Tennessee. Surely it was an April Fool's joke. We were dressed in shorts and tee shirts. Nope! We hit snow when we hit the Cumberland Plateau, and it kept coming. By the time we found a motel room in White Pine at I-81's Exit 4, we were pushing snow with our front bumper. Next day, the highways were cleared by sunshine, warm earth, and snowplows, and we drove home in a beautiful landscape of white.

A couple days ago, we got lots of snow in Bristol and in Dandridge, Tennessee, but our youngest daughter who lives just a mile or two from the Dandridge city limits only got a dusting. She lives on the wrong side of Douglas Lake. Like her parents, she loves snow, and she was so jealous of her neighbors across the lake with their eight-inch accumulation.

Snow, beautiful snow. In can cover a pile of garbage and transform it into something beautiful...just like the blood of Jesus covers my sins and makes something beautiful of my life. God said, through the mouth of Isaiah, the prophet, "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow. Though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

Treasures of the snow!

Unifying for the kingdom of Christ

Unify is defined as to make into a unit or a coherent whole; to put together, to form a single unit; to bond (Merriam-Webster dictionary). Jesus said, "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand" (Matthew 12:25).

There are many churches, pastors, and Christians that have fallen for the spirit of religiosity's traps of division not only throughout time but within the region. This division is not among lines of heresy and separating false doctrine from sound doctrine to be biblical (Ephesians 4:14), but among churches that desire to honor God or among denominational names (Romans 16:17-18; Romans 12:5). Churches and Christians should be driven to have the spirit of unity working among them to glorify the kingdom of God through Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 1:10; Ephesians 4:3).

When churches, pastors, and Christians fail to work together the spiritual enemies of God win (1 Corinthians 1:11-14). Some Christians will unify for a common cause like homelessness, feeding people, or one certain particular event but they will stop at that one event and not proceed to give God honor by continuing in His work through unity. How can this be overcome? The answer is simple. Christians need to gather with

Caleb Andrews



Abundant Grace Church

the common beliefs that should unify all believers of the New Testament church (Hebrews 6:1-2). These doctrines are: going on to maturity in their relationship with God, repenting of dead works, faith toward God, doctrine of baptisms, laying on of hands, resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. All of these are the elementary or foundational doctrines of Jesus Christ (Hebrews 6:1).

If Christians disagree on other doctrines like how to baptize, tongues, or other smaller branches of the Bible those doctrines should be able to be set aside to focus on the major doctrines of Hebrews 6 to still work in unifying for the kingdom of God through Jesus Christ (Titus 3:9-11). The enemy wants God's people separated as easier targets to conquer making this unity even more vital to all Christians that desire to endure to receive their salvation (Matthew 24:13).

Unifying is good for a region and a major method of breaking strongholds the spiritual enemies have used to divide for years (2 Corinthians 10:3-5).

Christians, pastors, and churches need to unify within each region to overcome the attacks of the enemy of the Christian faith (1 Peter 5:9; Romans 12:21). What can cause people not to unify? For some it may be insecurity, fear of the unknown, going against tradition, or pride and arrogance. In each of these reasons to not unify they are all of the flesh or carnality.

Christians are to not walk in carnality but by the Spirit of God (Romans 8:5-8). If God's people cannot unify, does that reflect serving different motives? When each person serves self no one will be able to unify because the motives are focused on each person getting their way or being set as the focus of the task.

When God is the One being served then unity should be an automatic by-product of everyone attempting the same goal of glorifying God (1 Peter 3:8; 1 John 1:7). This should motivate all Christians, pastors, and churches to honor God in everything that is conducted and create unifying for the kingdom of Christ to God's purpose (Colossians 3:14). The world needs Christians to unify to share the Word of God by working together to reflect one body and one army bringing victory for all that believe (1 John 5:5).

For information about Abundant Grace Church visit agcsparta.org.

WCTE

Central TN

SCHEDULE: FEBRUARY 5-FEBRUARY 11

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5 7 p.m. - The Caverns Sessions 7:30 p.m. - The Caverns Sessions 8 p.m. - Antiques Roadshow 9 p.m. - Antiques Roadshow 10 p.m. - Independent Lens 11 p.m. - Amanpour and Company	11 p.m. - Amanpour and Company
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6 7 p.m. - Finding Your Roots 8 p.m. - American Masters 10 p.m. - Love and Respect with Killer Mike 10:30 p.m. - Where Stories Live with Avery Hutchins - encore 11 p.m. - Amanpour and Company	
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7 7 p.m. - Nature 8 p.m. - NOVA 9 p.m. - Secrets of the Dead 10 p.m. - Prehistoric Road Trip 11 p.m. - Amanpour and Company	
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8 7 p.m. - It's Your Business with Michael Aikens 7:30 p.m. - Where Stories Live with Avery Hutchins 8 p.m. - Tennessee Crossroads 8:30 p.m. - Tennessee Wild Side 9 p.m. - Ray Stevens Cabaray Nashville 9:30 p.m. - The Caverns Sessions 10 p.m. - Ireland with Michael 10:30 p.m. - Ireland In Music	
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9 5 p.m. - DW News 5:30 p.m. - BBC News 6 p.m. - PBS NewsHour 7 p.m. - Washington Week 7:30 p.m. - Firing Line with Margaret Hoover 8 p.m. - Gospel Live! Presented By Henry Louis Gates, Jr. 9 p.m. - A Symphony Celebration: The Blind Boys of Alabama with Dr. Henry Panion, III 10 p.m. - History with David Rubenstein 10:30 p.m. - It's Your Business with Michael Aikens -encore 11 p.m. - Amanpour and Company	
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10 7 p.m. - Classic Gospel 8 p.m. - Antiques Roadshow 9 p.m. - Woodsongs 10 p.m. - Austin City Limits 11 p.m. - Song of the Mountains	
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11 7 p.m. - Miss Scarlet and the Duke on Masterpiece 8 p.m. - All Creatures Great and Small on Masterpiece 9 p.m. - Funny Woman 10 p.m. - Nina 11 p.m. - Seaside Hotel	

BRIDAL

Questions to ask when vetting wedding vendors

The process of planning a wedding involves the coordination of many different components, including people. It can be stressful and it can be exciting. Chances are the couple-to-be will be handling conversations with vendors they may have never worked with before.

It may be tempting to simply sign on the dotted line when hiring wedding vendors and hope for the best. But the process can prove more fruitful when couples prepare for it by compiling a list of questions designed to ensure they know what they're getting before they enter into a contract.

Is the date available?
The most important question to ask is whether the vendor is available on the day you have chosen to get married. The house of worship or place where you will be exchanging vows should be set first, and then additional vendors can be interviewed to confirm their availability and the scope of their services.

How long have you been in business?
How long a company has been in business, and more importantly how much experience they have with weddings, can be a telling detail. Experience is not always indicative of ability, but vendors with long track records of success may prove easy to work with.

Are you insured?



Check if the vendor is insured. It can be a risky proposition to work with vendors who are not insured.

Will you be on site to oversee things?
From florists to private caterers to specialty performers, it is acceptable to ask vendors if they will be there the day of the wedding to manage things or if it will be a third party or another representative. Confirm all pertinent details, including who will be there on the day of the wedding, in advance.

What is your payment schedule and cancellation policy?
Understand how the vendor expects to be paid. Many businesses require a deposit up front to book the date. Some may want payment in full a week or so before the wedding day. Others may enable you to make monthly payments for a set period of time. Ask how the vendor handles cancellations, and whether any deposit or portion of the money already paid will be refunded.

When is the last possible date for making changes?
Know how long you have to make any changes to your plans, colors, music choices, or other details.
Are there any additional fees?
It's important to determine if gratuity, travel, overtime charges, cleaning fees, or any other charges are included in the contract or if it leaves room for additional expenses.
Is mine your only wedding that day? How do you handle conflicts?
Figure out if the vendor handles just one wedding per day or if they have staff to cover multiple weddings on a given date.
Do prices differ depending on time of day, month or year?
Certain dates are busier than others. Find out if the vendor charges a premium for holidays or particular times of the year.
Couples are urged to exercise due diligence and ensure contracts with vendors specify all details before signing on the dotted line

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HEALTH

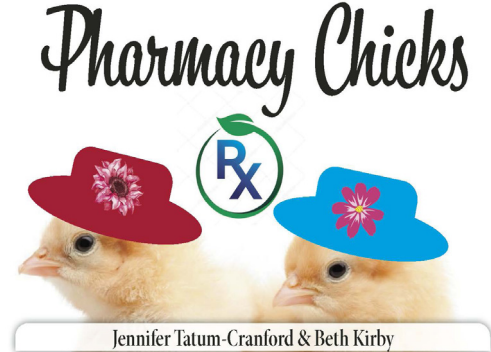
Glaucoma - warning signs and treatments

Glaucoma is a group of eye diseases that can cause vision loss by damaging the optic nerve. The symptoms start so slowly that they often go unnoticed. The only way to find out if you may have glaucoma is to get a comprehensive dilated eye exam. While there is no cure for glaucoma, early treatment can often stop the damage and protect your vision.

There are several different types of glaucoma: Open angle glaucoma, Normal tension glaucoma, Angle closure glaucoma, congenital glaucoma, neovascular glaucoma, pigmentary glaucoma, exfoliation glaucoma, and uveitic glaucoma. Other conditions like cataracts and tumors can also cause glaucoma, but those causes are not as common. Most people with glaucoma have open angle glaucoma so I will spend the

majority of the article talking about treatments for this type.

With open angle glaucoma, there are rarely any symptoms. Over time, you might slowly lose vision, starting with your side (peripheral) vision, especially closest to your nose. But, because it happens so slowly, many people can't tell that their vision is changing. As the disease progresses you may start to notice that you can't see things off to the side anymore. Without treatment, glaucoma can lead to permanent blindness. While anyone can get glaucoma, people at highest risk are those over the age of 60, African-Americans over age 40, and those with a family history of glaucoma. Talk to your doctor about your risk and how often you need to be checked. If you are at higher risk then you may need a comprehensive



Jennifer Tatum-Cranford & Beth Kirby



Jennifer Tatum-Cranford

dilated eye exam every 1 to 2 years.

Treatment for open angle glaucoma includes eye drops, laser treatment and surgery. Many prescription eye drops are used to lower the pressure in your eye and prevent damage to the optic nerve. Many people with high blood pressure or diabetes suffer from glaucoma and are also considered at high risk. Many experts agree that when

the pressure inside your eye gets too high, it damages the optic nerve causing vision loss. Studies show that lowering the eye pressure helps stop vision loss. Getting regular dilated eye exams can help your eye doctor figure out what level of eye pressure is normal for you.

Eye drops that work by helping drain excess fluid from the eye, therefore lowering eye pressure include the following:

- Prostaglandins like Xalatan (Latanoprost), Travatan Z (travoprost), Zioptan and Lumigan
 - Rho Kinase inhibitors like Rhopressa
 - Nitric Oxides like Vyzulta
 - Miotic or cholinergic agents like pilocarpine
- Other types of eye drops work by lowering the amount of fluid your eye make and include the following:
- Alpha-adrenergic agonists like Alphagan P
 - Beta Blockers like Betoptic, Timoptic, or Betimol
 - Carbonic Anhydrase Inhibitors like Trusopt and Azopt
- The most common side effects of eye drops are stinging, burning, itching, and redness in your eye, blurry vision, changes in eye color or the skin around the eye, headaches, dry mouth, or changes in your energy level, heartbeat or breathing. The

specific side effects depend on which medication you're taking so please talk to your pharmacist or doctor. You may be able to take a different dose or a different medication if the side effects are too bothersome.

Many glaucoma medications will need to be used daily to prevent blindness. Laser treatment might be another option as well as surgery. Talk about your specific options with your doctor. While glaucoma is a serious disease, treatment works well...as long as you use it! Many patients expect miracles when it comes to modern medicine but please remember that if can't work if you don't take it or use it correctly! If you have specific questions about glaucoma please don't hesitate to talk to myself or Beth at Sparta Drugs. We are happy to help in any way!

LAWN AND GARDEN

Dreaming of spring? Not too early to think of the Flower, Lawn, and Garden Show

The recent snow and ice across Tennessee have been unexpected and beautiful, but after a week of treacherous roads and being stuck at home, many of us are dreaming of warmer weather, spring wildflowers, and the start of the gardening

season.

The Cumberland County Master Gardeners are thinking of spring, too. They're planning their next Flower, Lawn and Garden Show for Friday-Saturday, April 26-27, at the Cumberland County Commu-

nity Complex (fairgrounds) in Crossville, Tennessee.

This popular event showcases local landscape, gardening and environmental topics with educational speakers and exhibits and a vendor marketplace of plants, yard and gar-

den items, and nature art. Food trucks will be on site.

The last Cumberland Master Gardeners' Flower, Lawn, and Garden Show took place in 2022, and this year promises to be bigger and better than ever.

Cumberland County Master

Gardeners is accepting vendor applications until April 1. Visit <https://www.ccmga.org> for vendor information and application.

Cumberland County Master Gardeners is a 501C3 non-profit organization affiliated with

the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture's UT Extension service. We promote residential landscaping and gardening through education, assistance and community service projects in our Cumberland County community.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE SALE

Default having been made in the terms, conditions, and payments provided in a certain Deed of Trust dated August 9, 2000, executed by Morris H. Frazier and Sandra L. Frazier, husband and wife, to R. Miller as Trustee for the benefit of CitiFinancial, Inc., of record in Record Book 78, Page 389, in the Register's Office for White County, Tennessee, conveying certain real property therein described, and Edward D. Russell of The SR Law Group, having been appointed as Substitute Trustee of record in Book RB520, Page 906, Register's Office for White County, Tennessee;

WHEREAS, the said Deed of Trust was last assigned to U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR TREEHOUSE SERIES V TRUST ("Holder"), by SN Servicing Corporation, its attorney in fact, the entire indebtedness having been declared due and payable and Holder having requested foreclosure proceedings to be instituted; and as provided in said Deed of Trust, Edward D. Russell of The SR Law Group will by virtue of the power and authority vested as Substitute Trustee, on Tuesday, February 20, 2024 on or about 2:00 p.m. local time, at the east door, White County Courthouse, 1 East Bockman Way, Sparta, Tennessee, sell to the highest bidder for cash, free from the equity of redemption, homestead, and dower, and all other exemptions which are expressly waived, and subject to any unpaid taxes, if any, the following described property located in White County, State of Tennessee, as follows, to wit: All that certain parcel of land in the Second Civil District of White County, State of Tennessee, as more fully described in Deed Book 164, Page 171, ID #2 52-B D 7, being known and designated as Lot 111A, Thousand Oaks Resort Subdivision, filed in Plat Book 1, Page 67.

This being the same property conveyed to Morris H. Frazier and wife, Sandra L. Frazier, from Ronnie Smith and wife, Bonnie Smith, by Deed dated 11/09/1977 and recorded 11/09/1977, in Deed Book 164, Page 171, White County Records, State of Tennessee.

Parcel No. 052B D 007.00

Common Address: 209 Rich Loop Rd., Sparta, Tennessee 38583

THE SALE OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND AND IS FURTHER SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT OF ANY TENANT(S) OR OTHER PARTIES OR ENTITIES IN POSSESSION OF THE PROPERTY. ANY REPRESENTATION CONCERNING ANY ASPECT OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY BY A THIRD PARTY IS NOT THE REPRESENTATION/RESPONSIBILITY

OF TRUSTEE(S)/ SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE(S) OR THEIR OFFICE.

THIS SALE IS SUBJECT TO DEED OF TRUST RECORDED IN BOOK 193, PAGE 54, WHITE COUNTY ROD, ANY UNPAID TAXES, IF ANY, ANY PRIOR LIENS OR ENCUMBRANCES, LEASES, EASEMENTS AND ALL OTHER MATTERS WHICH TAKE PRIORITY OVER THE DEED OF TRUST UNDER WHICH THIS FORECLOSURE SALE IS CONDUCTED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE PRIORITY OF ANY FIXTURE FILING. IF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY/INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, THE STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, OR THE STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ARE LISTED AS INTERESTED PARTIES IN THE ADVERTISEMENT, THEN THE NOTICE OF THIS FORECLOSURE IS BEING GIVEN TO THEM, AND THE SALE WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE APPLICABLE GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES RIGHT TO REDEEM THE PROPERTY, ALL AS REQUIRED BY 26 U.S.C. 7425 AND T.C.A. 67-1-1433. THE NOTICE REQUIREMENTS OF T.C.A. 35-5-101 ET SEQ. HAVE BEEN MET.

THE RIGHT IS RESERVED TO ADJOURN THE DAY OF THE SALE TO ANOTHER DAY, TIME AND PLACE CERTAIN WITHOUT FURTHER PUBLICATION, UPON ANNOUNCEMENT AT THE TIME AND PLACE FOR THE SALE SET FORTH ABOVE. THE TRUSTEE/SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO RESCIND THE SALE.

IF YOU PURCHASE A PROPERTY AT THE FORECLOSURE SALE, THE ENTIRE PURCHASE PRICE IS DUE AND PAYABLE AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE AUCTION IN THE FORM OF A CERTIFIED/BANK CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO OR ENDORSED TO THE SR LAW GROUP. NO PERSONAL CHECKS WILL BE ACCEPTED. TO THIS END, YOU MUST BRING SUFFICIENT FUNDS TO OUTBID THE LENDER AND ANY OTHER BIDDERS. INSUFFICIENT FUNDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. AMOUNTS RECEIVED IN EXCESS OF THE WINNING BID WILL BE REFUNDED TO THE SUCCESSFUL PURCHASER AT THE TIME THE FORECLOSURE DEED IS DELIVERED.

OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES: Morris H. Frazier; Sandra L. Frazier; Sovran Bank

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

This day, January 11, 2024.

Edward D. Russell, Substitute Trustee, The SR Law Group, PO Box 128, Mt. Juliet, TN 37121

(615) 559-3190;

erussell@thesrlawgroup.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

White County, Tennessee

Request for Proposals

RFP No. 2024-0208-01-003

Take notice that the Director of Finance for White County shall accept sealed written proposals for security camera upgrades at various school facilities.

Proposals, bids, or responses must be submitted to the office of the Director of Finance, Room 204, White County Courthouse, Sparta, Tennessee, 38583, no later than 2:00 P.M. central time, February 8, 2024 at which time the bids

will be opened and considered.

Copies of bid documents may be obtained at white-countytn.gov/bids

The owner (White County) further reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any and all informalities and to negotiate contract terms with the successful bidder, and the right to disregard all non-conforming, non-responsive, or conditional bids.

Chad S. Marcum
Director of Finance
Publication Date: 01/18/2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

White County, Tennessee

Request for Bids

RFB No. 2024-0208-02-004

Take notice that the Director of Finance for White County shall accept sealed written bids for the construction of a greenhouse at White County Middle School.

Proposals, bids, or responses must be submitted to the office of the Director of Finance, Room 204, White County Courthouse, Sparta, Tennessee, 38583, no later than 2:00 P.M. central time, February 8, 2024 at which time

the bids will be opened and considered.

Copies of bid documents may be obtained at whitecountytn.gov/bids

The owner (White County) further reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any and all informalities and to negotiate contract terms with the successful bidder, and the right to disregard all non-conforming, non-responsive, or conditional bids.

Chad S. Marcum
Director of Finance
Publication Date: 01/18/2024

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Terms: Selling under the direction of Cumberland County Chancery Court Case No 2020-CH-1839. 20% Deposit Day of Sale, balance due upon Court Confirmation. Auction Conducted Subject to a 10 Day Raise Period. All Property selling "As Is, Where Is" both surface and subsurface with no warranties. Bidders should complete their own due diligence prior to bidding. Announcements & Updates Day of Sale Take Precedence Over All Other Advertising.

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455 Taft Church Rd.
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A 3 bedroom 2 bathroom brick home offering 1,533 sqft of living area plus a full, drive out basement. This home features hardwood floors, sheetrock & shiplap walls, a formal dining room and the kitchen boasts stainless appliances & abundant cabinet space. Updated and remodeled, this home offers the "trendiest" finishings. The home is situated on 0.96 +/- acres that is also improved with a 35' x 48' metal shop building with 2 garage doors and a walk out door. The property is recorded in 2 parcels

(Map 048 Parcel 132.00 & Parcel 132.01) but will be sold in 1 tract. There is a neglected mobile home on the property that is included with the sale.

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Terms: Selling under the direction of Cumberland County Chancery Court Case No 2020-CH-1839. 20% Deposit Day of Sale, balance due upon Court Confirmation. Auction Conducted Subject to a 10 Day Raise Period. All Property selling "As Is, Where Is" both surface and subsurface with no warranties. Bidders should complete their own due diligence prior to bidding. Announcements & Updates Day of Sale Take Precedence Over All Other Advertising.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Pursuant to 24 CFR §75 of Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, the Sparta Housing Authority is seeking low-income residents of Sparta, Tennessee, or the surrounding area for employment opportunities. Please contact Felicia Lack regarding these opportunities by email at: flack@kingcgi.com for further details on available positions and eligibility requirements.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

WHITE COUNTY PROBATE COURT, SPARTA, TENNESSEE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF CAROLYN SUE HOWELL, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that on the 10th day of January, 2024, Letters of Administration in respect to the estate of CAROLYN SUE HOWELL, Deceased, who died the 21st day of July, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Probate Court of White County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against this estate are required to file the same with the Clerk of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors, if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

All persons indebted to the above Estate must come forward and make proper settlement with the undersigned at once.

This the 10th day of January, 2024.
Terry Vinson, Administrator
Estate of Carolyn Sue Howell, Deceased

Brandon S. Griffin, Attorney for Estate
Sparta, Tennessee

Gena M. Brock, Clerk & Master

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR VAN BUREN COUNTY, TENNESSEE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of Roger Neal Rowland

Notice is hereby given that on the 11th day of January, 2024 letters testamentary (administration)(small estate order) in respect to the Estate of Roger Neal Rowland, who died October 20, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Probate Court of Van Buren County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1) (A); or (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

This 11th day of January, 2024
Earl Wade Merriman
E x - e c u t o r
E s - t a t e of Roger Neal Rowland

Tina Shockley
Clerk and Master
Van Buren County Probate Court
Spencer, TN 38585

Attorney:
John E. Hutson
200 W. Bockman Way
Sparta, TN 38583
931-837-2002

ATTORNEY FOR EXCUTOR

PUBLIC NOTICE

WHITE COUNTY PROBATE COURT, SPARTA, TENNESSEE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF GLENDA LORENE COLLINS, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that on the 10th day of January, 2024, Letters of Administration in respect to the estate of GLENDA LORENE COLLINS, Deceased, who died the 29th day of November, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Probate Court of White County, Tennessee.

All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against this estate are required to file the same with the Clerk of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors, if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication (or posting) as described in (1)(A); or (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death. All persons indebted to the above Estate must come forward and make proper settlement with the undersigned at once.

This the 10th day of January, 2024.
Jarrett Branch, Administrator
Estate of Glenda Lorene Collins, Deceased

Brandon S. Griffin, Attorney for Estate
Sparta, Tennessee
Gena M. Brock, Clerk & Master

PUBLIC NOTICE

WHITE COUNTY PROBATE COURT, SPARTA, TENNESSEE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF KAREN MARIE SPURLOCK, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that on the 28th day of December, 2023, Letters of Administration in respect to the estate of KAREN MARIE SPURLOCK, Deceased, who died the 26th day of September, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Probate Court of White County, Tennessee.

All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against this estate are required to file the same with the Clerk of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors, if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication (or posting) as described in (1)(A); or (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death. All persons indebted to the above Estate must come forward and make proper settlement with the undersigned at once.

This the 12th day of January, 2024.
Roy Spurlock, Administrator
Estate of Karen Marie Spurlock, Deceased

Cindy Morgan, Attorney for Estate
Sparta, Tennessee

Gena M. Brock, Clerk & Master

PUBLIC NOTICE

WHITE COUNTY PROBATE COURT, SPARTA, TENNESSEE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF RITA SUE BROWN, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that on the 12th day of January, 2024, Letters Testamentary in respect to the estate of RITA SUE BROWN, Deceased, who died the 11th day of October, 2023, were issued to the undersigned by the Probate Court of White County, Tennessee.

All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against this estate are required to file the same with the Clerk of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or (B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors, if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication (or posting) as described in (1)(A); or (2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death. All persons indebted to the above Estate must come forward and make proper settlement with the undersigned at once.

This the 12th day of January, 2024.
Cheryl Marcom, Executrix
Estate of Rita Sue Brown, Deceased

Cindy Morgan, Attorney for Estate
Sparta, Tennessee

Gena M. Brock, Clerk & Master

PUBLIC NOTICE

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE

Sale at public auction will be on March 28, 2024 at 11:00AM local time, at the north door, Van Buren County Courthouse, Van Buren Administrative Bldg, 121 Taft Drive, Spencer, Tennessee pursuant to Deed of Trust executed by Richard D. Yost, to FNC Title Services, Inc., Trustee as trustee for Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Nominee for American Advisors Group on July 8, 2021 at Book RB112, Page 718; conducted by LLG Trustee TN LLC, having been appointed Substitute or Successor Trustee, all of record in the Van Buren County Register's Office. Default has occurred in the performance of the covenants, terms, and conditions of said Deed of Trust and the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable.

Party Entitled to Enforce the Debt: Finance of America Reverse LLC, its successors and assigns.

The real estate located in Van Buren County, Tennessee, and described in the said Deed of Trust will be sold to the highest call bidder. The terms of the said Deed of Trust may be modified by other instruments appearing in the public record. Additional identifying information regarding the collateral property is below and is believed to be accurate, but no representation or warrant is intended.

Street Address: 252 Spike Buck Rd, Spencer, Tennessee 38585
Parcel Number: 067 049.00
Current Owner(s) of Property: The Heirs of Richard D. Yost

This sale is subject to, without limitation, all matters shown on any applicable recorded plat; any unpaid taxes; any restrictive covenants, easements, or setback lines that may be applicable; any statutory right of redemption of any governmental agency, state or federal; any prior liens or encumbrances including those created by a

PUBLIC NOTICE

fixture filing or any applicable homeowners' association dues or assessments; all claims or other matters, whether of record or not, which may encumber the purchaser's title and any matter that an accurate survey of the premises might disclose.

The following parties may claim an interest in the above-referenced property to be affected by the foreclosure: any judgment creditor or lien holder with an interest subordinate to the said Deed of Trust or any party claiming by, through, or under any of the foregoing. Such parties known to the Substitute Trustee may include: All parties claiming by, though, or under Richard Yost; Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

Terms of Sale will be public auction, for cash, free and clear of rights of homestead, redemption and dower to the extent disclaimed or inapplicable, and the rights of Richard D. Yost, and those claiming through him/her/it/them.

Any right of equity of redemption, statutory and otherwise, and homestead are waived in accord with the terms of said Deed of Trust, and the title is believed to be good, but the undersigned will sell and convey only as Substitute Trustee.

The right is reserved to adjourn the day of the sale to another day, time, and place certain without further publication, upon announcement at the time and place for the sale set forth above. If you purchase a property at the foreclosure sale, the entire purchase price is due and payable at the conclusion of the auction in the form of a certified/bank check made payable to or endorsed to LOGS Legal Group LLP. No personal checks will be accepted. To this end, you must bring sufficient funds to outbid the lender and any other bidders. Insufficient funds will not be accepted. Amounts received in excess of the winning bid will be refunded to the successful purchaser at

the time the foreclosure deed is delivered.

This property is being sold with the express reservation that the sale is subject to confirmation by the lender or trustee. This sale may be rescinded only by the Substitute Trustee at any time. If the Substitute Trustee rescinds the sale, the purchaser shall only be entitled to a return of any money paid towards the purchase price and shall have no other recourse. Once the purchaser tenders the purchase price, the Substitute Trustee may deem the sale final in which case the purchaser shall have no remedy. The real property will be sold AS IS, WHERE IS, with no warranties or representations of any kind, express or implied, including without limitation, warranties regarding condition of the property or marketability of title.

This office may be a debt collector. This may be an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained may be used for that purpose.

LLG Trustee TN LLC
Substitute Trustee
10130 Perimeter Parkway, Suite 400
Charlotte, NC 28216
Phone (704) 333-8107
Fax (704) 333-8156

File No. 23-124173

PUBLIC NOTICE

ATTN: VAN BUREN COUNTY PROPERTY OWNERS

DELINQUENT TAX NOTICE

ALL UNPAID 2022 PROPERTY TAXES

WILL BE PAID OVER TO THE CLERK & MASTER AND SUBJECT TO SALE IF NOT PAID IN FULL BEFORE MARCH 26TH, 2024.

ALL DELIQUENT TAXES MUST BE PAID PRIOR TO THIS DATE.

STATEWIDE

Auctions

Cabin & 1+/- Ac Lot ONLINE ONLY CHANCERY COURT AUCTION 207 High Meadow Dr. • Spencer, TN 38585 ENDS: THURSDAY • JANUARY 25 • 12 NOON BID @ EAGLEAUCTIONS.COM (TnScan)

Brick Home • Shop • .96+/- Ac Lot ONLINE ONLY CHANCERY COURT AUCTION 455 Taft Church Rd. • Sparta, TN 38583 ENDS: THURSDAY • JANUARY 25 • 10 AM BID @ EAGLEAUCTIONS.COM (TnScan)

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO FURNISHERS OF LABOR AND MATERIALS TO: Bumbalough's Construction PROJECT NO.: R2SVAR-M3-028 CONTRACT NO.: CNW715 COUNTY: White The Tennessee Department of Transportation is about to make final settlement with the contractor for construction of the above numbered project. All persons wishing to file claims pursuant to Section 54-5-122, T.C.A. must file same with the Director of Construction, Tennessee Department of Transportation, Suite 700 James K. Polk Bldg., Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0326, on or before 2/23/2024.

PUBLIC NOTICE

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Sealed bids for the Van Buren County Schools Upgrades at Spencer Elementary and Van Buren County High School, Spencer, TN 38585. Bids shall be received as follows:

OWNER:Van Buren County Schools LOCATION: 293 Sparta Street
Spencer, TN 38585
TIME: 3:30 PM Central Time; Thursday, February 15, 2024

Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud and the Contract awarded as soon thereafter as practicable. Bidders must use the bid envelope cover sheet provided in the project manual and include their Full Name, Address, Tennessee Contractor's License Number, along with any other required information.

Bidders must obtain Plans, Specifications and Contract Documents via email from Cope Architecture, 2607 Kingston Pike, Suite 5, Knoxville, TN 37919. Telephone 865-694-9000. Email jhinton@cope-associates.com. All documents will be made available electronically at no charge.

A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held on Thursday, February 1, 2024, at 3:30 P.M. local time. The meeting will be held at the Central Office, 293 Sparta Street, Spencer, TN 38585. Bidders (General Contractors) must have a representative present at the mandatory pre-bid meeting for their bids to be considered. Subcontractors are encouraged to attend but not required.

All Bidders must be licensed Contractors as required by the "CONTRACTOR'S LICENSING ACT OF 1976," and as passed by the 89th General Assembly of the State of Tennessee. Furthermore, the Contractor should have the necessary licensing classifications as listed in Rules of Tennessee Board for Licensing General Contractors-Chapter 0680-1.

Davis Bacon Federal Wage rates are applicable to this project.

Each Bid must be accompanied by a certified check or by a Bidder's Bond executed by the Bidder and a surety company licensed to do business in the State of Tennessee, in the sum of five percent (5%) of the amount of the Bid.

The successful Bidder will be required to execute an acceptable performance and payment bond in the amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the Contract price prior to the execution of the contract.

Van Buren County Schools reserves the right to waive any informality in or to reject any or all bids and to accept the bid deemed most favorable to the interest of the Schools.

Questions regarding this bid request shall be directed, in writing, to Jim Hinton, Cope Architecture via email @ jhinton@cope-associates.com no later than February 8, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. local time. All technical questions will be addressed by written addendum issued by Cope Architecture.

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ATTENTION
Real & Personal Property Taxpayers
For Years 2022 & 2023

You are advised that after February 29, 2024, additional interest will be due on all 2023 taxes paid after that date.

Also, on all 2022 property taxes additional costs plus interest will be imposed on April 1, 2024 as a result of the filing of a lawsuit for the enforcement of the statutory liens for taxes against real and/or personal property. Until the filing of this lawsuit, the 2022 taxes due may be paid in the office of the Trustee. There after 2022 delinquent taxes are required to be paid in the office of the Clerk and Master.

Kathryn P. Adcock
White County Trustee, Rm 102 Courthouse
931.836.3788

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE
ESAD MUHELJIC

The State of Tennessee, Department of Children's Services, has filed a petition against you seeking to declare your children,

Bella and Eligh Muheljic, to be dependent and neglected. It appears that ordinary process of law cannot be served upon you because your whereabouts are unknown. You are hereby ORDERED to serve upon Adam R. Hicks, Attorney for the Tennessee Department of Children Services, 600 Hearthwood Court, Cookeville, Tennessee 38506, (931) 646-3000, an Answer to the Petition filed by the Tennessee Department of Children Services, within thirty (30) days of the last day of publication of this notice, and pursuant to Rule 103(c)(3) of the Tenn. R. Juv. P. **you must also appear in the Juvenile Court of White County, Tennessee at Sparta, Tennessee on the 1st day of April, 2024, at 9:00 A.M.** for the Adjudicatory Hearing on the filed by the State of

Tennessee, Department of Children's Services If you fail to do so,

a default judgment will be taken against you pursuant to Rule 55 of the Tenn. R. of Civ. P. for the relief demanded in the Petition. You may view and obtain a copy of the Petition and any other subsequently

filed legal documents at the
White County Juvenile Court Clerk's Office, Sparta, Tennessee.



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