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The CAMDEN CHRONICLE



VOLUME 130, NUMBER 52 \$1
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2022



COSTLY DAMAGE – One night of vandalism has resulted in a repair bill exceeding \$7,300 for the Camden City Park.

Vandals wreck ballpark bathroom

by Angela Jones

On Sunday, Dec. 11, vandal(s) caused some serious damage to the women's bathroom near the

Little League field at Camden City Park, located at 106 Armory Ave. in Camden.

CPD officer Bryan Hall reported that the door frames had

been ripped from the stalls, damaging the cinder block walls. Soap dispensers and paper towel and toilet paper holders had been torn down. A toilet

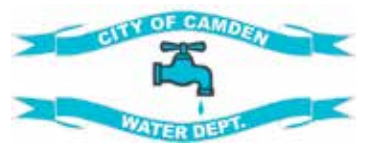
was pulled from the wall. The vandal(s) also attempted to set the hand sanitizer on fire, burn-

Please see PARK, page 2A

Camden Water Dept. issues boil alert

As a result of the very cold weather, the City of Camden Water Department (CWD) has experienced multiple line breaks, which have resulted in a significant loss of pressure in the drinking water system. As a precautionary measure, on Tuesday, Dec. 27, CWD began asking customers to boil water before using for consumption.

The extreme subfreezing temperatures also have caused many customers to have line breaks in their homes. This has resulted in an increase in demand on



the water system, and the water system tanks are running low. There simply is not enough water pressure in the line to ensure that water will be free of bacteria or other organisms.

"We apologize for any inconvenience this boil alert may

Please see WATER, page 2A



BOIL WATER ALERT – The Camden Water Department is giving out cases of water to anyone who needs it. The water is available at the Camden Fire Department.



FREEZING COLD – From Thursday night until Monday, area utility service providers battled the freezing temperatures to ensure that citizens would not be without essential services.

Frigid temperatures blast Benton County

Winter weather brought a white Christmas and dropped temperatures in Benton County to a record low of "20 below

zero" chill factor. A steady rain Thursday night turned into an icy covering of snow on the ground of two inch-

es or more by Friday morning. People rushed to grocery stores on Thursday afternoon to purchase water, milk, and bread,

along with other staples and cold weather supplies.

Please see FRIGID, page 7A

BCSO offers safe ride

In addition to performing saturation patrols and sobriety checkpoints over the New Year's weekend, the Benton County Sheriff's Office will offer a safe ride home to anyone who is too intoxicated to drive on Saturday evening, New Year's Eve.

"We want to ensure that everyone gets home safely on New Year's Eve, so if you have been

drinking, please don't drive," said Sheriff Kenny Christopher. "If you know that you will be drinking, please plan ahead and arrange for a sober driver. But, if you have no other way home, one of our deputies will come get you."

The goal of sobriety checkpoints and saturation patrols is

Please see SAFE, page 2A



Respiratory illness on the decline in West Tennessee

by Sabrina Bates

This year has been marked as one of the worst flu seasons to hit Tennessee, but a Tennessee Health Department (THD) regional epidemiologist is reporting signs of good news as families gather to ring in the New Year.

"We have had a really bad flu season, but we are starting to see a decline in the number of reported cases. We aren't out of the woods yet, however, so we still need people to take extra precautions if they are



sick," West Tennessee Regional Epidemiologist Kevin Morris shared.

Please see ILLNESS, page 7A

'Shop with a Cop' was a huge hit

by Bobby Flash Melton

"Shop with a Cop," an annual project of the Camden Police Department (CPD) designed to provide a very special Christmas for many deserving children of the community, took place on Monday evening, Dec. 19. This was the fourth year for CPD to host the event with assistance from at least 55 officers representing 14 partner agencies. More than 60 kids benefited from the program.

"I'm very happy with the response received this year to our Shop with a Cop program," said CPD Chief George Smith. "In the past we have been able to



SHOPPING SPREE – Santa and CPD officer Alex Satterfield help one lucky kid fill her basket during the Shop with a Cop event.

Please see SHOP, page 8A

OBITUARIES

Jerrell F. Robinson
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COMMUNITY

Statewide virtual event spotlights 'electrification' of Tennessee

by Sabrina Bates

The announcement of one of the largest financial investments by Ford Motor Co. in the state has sparked a series of conversations across Tennessee as leaders are looking at the role they will play in the future of electrification.

Ground was broken on Blue Oval City in September 2022. The location is expected to bring nearly 6,000 jobs to West Tennessee, both in the production of an all-electric truck by Ford and a battery plant with recycling capabilities.

With that announcement, members of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), and the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) are working simultaneously to provide education on electric vehicles (EVs) and infrastructure. Recently, those representatives hosted a virtual discussion to talk about the future of electrification in Tennessee.

Alexa Voytek with TDEC's Office of Energy Programs highlighted Drive Electric Tennessee, a program with a goal to see 200,000 EVs on the road by 2028. Voytek said the program kicked off in 2018, and by September, Tennessee boasted nearly 22,000 EVs registered in the state. Voytek explained vehicle registration data is collected and reported by <https://www.atlasevhub.com/>. The website offers global data and breakdowns by

county are offered for Tennessee.

In 2019 the state looked at infrastructure and assessed needs. With the high cost of construction projects for EV-charging stations, they didn't see the private sector "filling gaps." As a result of the needs assessment, the Fast Charge TN Network was developed between TVA and TDEC.

A project that will place EV-charging stations every 50 miles is being completed by TVA within its six-state coverage area. At-risk and economically distressed counties in Tennessee are high priority regions, as well as all of Tennessee's State Parks. The first fast-charging EV station resulting from this partnership opened in September 2022 downtown in Martin.

TVA rep Drew Frye spoke about future plans and TVA's role to help "electrify" America. Frye said TVA helps offset the cost of charging stations by allotting up to 80-percent reimbursement for power companies. The Fast Charge station in Martin was a project between the City of Martin and the Weakley County Municipal Electric System, which is the county's power service provider.

Frye explained the differences between Level 1, Level 2, and Fast Charge Network stations. Level 1 chargers are 110-volt outlets, typically found in the home. EV owners can charge their vehicles at their home, but some won't provide a full charge over-

night, depending on the battery levels at the time of charging.

Level 2 chargers are 240 volts, the same used for dryers and stoves in the home and can be hardwired into a home by an electrician. Frye said they are typically found outside of hotels and malls and can add 200 miles from an overnight charge. Communities wanting to invest in Level 2 charging stations can expect to spend around \$10,000 on a project. Tennessee State Parks will offer Level 2 chargers.

Fast-charging stations can provide a full charge in about 30 minutes to an hour. Some EVs can travel up to 300 miles on a full charge. Frye said cost estimates are close to or equivalent to gasoline costs for those who pay at charging stations and less than \$1 per gallon for those who charge their EV at home.

TDOT representative Matt Meservy talked about statewide infrastructure priorities. Tennessee is expected to receive more than \$88 million in federal funding through fiscal year 2026. The federal government has allocated \$4 billion in funding for EV projects across the U.S.

Phase 1 for Tennessee involves EV charging stations along U.S. Hwy. 64 from Memphis to Chattanooga. By the end of 2022, TDOT expects to finalize procurement and determine who to contract for installation and maintenance. That procurement is expected to be awarded by the end of June 2023.



A second priority area involves I-40 from Jackson to Nashville. Meservy said the goal of the projects is to see at least 40 percent of the benefits of investments overflow into disadvantaged communities in Tennessee. He also said another aspect of these projects is to ensure there is available training for electricians interested in installing chargers.

Voytek shared some incentives for communities and EV owners. She said there is some funding assistance available through TDEC and its settlement with Volkswagen for communities looking to install Level 2 charging stations as well as incentives to help counties and cities "electrify their own government fleets."

There are tax credits available for the installation of charging stations and power companies offer incentives. Voytek said General Motors offered its dealerships up to 10 chargers for community partnerships and there were several dealerships that are taking advantage of the incentive.

For more information about community resources and EV incentives, visit <https://www.driveelectrictn.org/>. More information about Tennessee and TVA's partnership can be found at <https://energyright.com/ev-fast-charger-program/tn/>.

WATER

From IA

cause and thank you for your patience while we work to resolve this problem," said CWD Director John Beasley. "Please check your properties for line breaks and turn off your faucets when temperatures rise above freezing to decrease the demand on the water system."

For consumers of water from CWD, the precautionary water boil alert means that no one should drink water from the tap without boiling it first to ensure that any bacteria or other organisms in the water are killed. Either use bottled water or bring all tap water to a boil, let it boil for three minutes, and let it cool

before using. Boiled or bottled water should be used for drinking, making ice, brushing teeth, washing dishes, and food preparation until further notice.

CWD is actively seeking and repairing line breaks and monitoring system pressure. Once system pressure is restored, bacteriological tests will be conducted throughout the system. CWD will issue a notice that the boil advisory has been lifted.

For more information, contact CWD at 731-584-4656 or monitor the Camden Water and Wastewater Facebook page for timely notices about any changes to the boil alert.

SAFE

From IA

to increase the likelihood that impaired driving will be identified and penalized, leading to a reduction in accidents due to impaired driving. To avoid both accidents and legal consequences, plan ahead and designate a sober driver if you will be drink-

ing during your New Year's festivities.

If you have been drinking and you can't find anyone to drive you home, please call the BCSO at 731-584-4632 to get a safe ride home.

PARK

From IA

ing the container.

Parks Manager Chad Horton reported the incident and secured the premises after Hall completed his initial investigation. The bathroom will be out of service for the present.

"After determining what will have to be repaired or replaced, the estimate of what it

will take to restore the facility is \$7,301.32," Mayor Roger Pafford reported. "Kevin Johnson, Chad Horton, and their crew work hard to keep the Camden City Park in great condition, and it is a real shame that one or two people have to cause this kind of damage to a facility that is for use by the entire commu-

nity."

It was unclear how many vandals were involved, and the investigation of the matter is ongoing. Johnson reported that the bathroom likely will be repaired sometime in the spring, hopefully before the baseball and softball seasons get underway.

What's more sad than 10,000 pets getting euthanized today?



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Happy New Year 2023

Front Row: Amy Hockman, Karen Scott, Brandy Stone; Back Row: Debbie Pafford, McKenzie Edwards, Erica Flowers, Glenda Sparks, Bonnie Blazier, Dian Turner, Becky Kirk, Ally Lambert; Not Pictured: Michaela Crafton

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EDITORIAL

A NOTE ON OPINIONS

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IN GOD WE TRUST
 "The world's biggest promoter of Benton County and the people who live and/or earn a living here"
 "Our Family Roots Run Deep in Benton County"

Biden's weaponized IRS is coming for your Venmo account

by David Kustoff

If you use Venmo or PayPal, filing your taxes will look much different this year. The Biden Administration and congressional Democrats have used their one-party rule in Washington to supercharge the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), expanding its size and authority to wage war on hardworking American families and small businesses across the nation.

Democrats' Inflation Reduction Act, which should more accurately be titled the Inflation Expansion Act, authorized \$80 billion for the IRS to hire 87,000 new agents to target taxpayers. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) confirmed that this move will lead to more audits and enforcement measures for households making less than \$400,000. Ultimately, this will raise taxes on all Americans.

Unfortunately, the war

on taxpayers did not stop there. In January, the Biden Administration's rogue IRS will have a new target – anyone who uses third-party payment platforms such as PayPal, Venmo, or Cash App. Taxpayers who conduct over \$600 worth of transactions on these platforms will now be required to submit a 1099-K Form to the IRS.

This form, which includes the user's payment data and other personal information, will be sent to anyone participating in casual, day-to-day commerce, such as selling concert tickets or baby-sitting for a relative. This is a change from prior law, which exempted most casual exchanges and applied only to individuals with transactions exceeding \$20,000 or 200 individual transactions.

The new \$600 threshold will hit millions of families and small businesses with burdensome and time-consuming paperwork at a time when many

are struggling to make ends meet. This will not only complicate what is expected to be a messy filing season for taxpayers, it will further overwhelm an agency already dealing with an historic backlog of correspondence.

In addition, many Americans will receive 1099-Ks even if their transactions don't carry a tax liability – making it likely that many Americans will mistakenly pay more taxes than they actually owe.

Let's be clear, this policy is a blatant violation of President Biden's promise not to increase taxes on households making \$400,000 or less.

This new reporting requirement also puts Americans' privacy at risk. Confidential taxpayer information will be more exposed to hacking, data breaches, and other forms of unauthorized access.

Families and small businesses have enough on their plate

dealing with President Biden's economic crisis – inflation is out of control, grocery store shelves remain empty, and small businesses are struggling to find workers to keep their doors open. The last thing households need right now is a confusing and complicated tax filing season with more rules, paperwork, and scrutiny from the IRS.

In the new Republican majority, Congress will focus on combatting these extreme policies. A key pillar of our Commitment to America is to provide the oversight needed to rein in government abuse of power and to provide real transparency. On the Ways and Means Committee, we will work from the very beginning to repeal this onerous, intrusive, ill-advised policy and focus on getting our nation back on track.

Republican David Kustoff represents Tennessee's 8th congressional district.

Open meetings lawsuit takes aim at two secretive techniques

The Chattanooga Times Free Press filed a lawsuit in December against the Chattanooga City Council over its use of private meetings to decide a significant issue – the new boundaries of city voting districts.

The lawsuit alleges violations of the Open Meetings Act and is important because it takes aim at two autocratic techniques sometimes used by public officials in Tennessee to skirt the law and shut out the public and journalists who report for the public.

In this case, it's not clear whether the entire city council realized that their normal legislative process was being hijacked. But the process was distinctly different from redistricting in Chattanooga a decade ago.

In contrast to last time, this time the council member discussions about new boundary lines were done in private, not in public. The public meetings that were finally held to show and eventually vote on the new maps were mostly a rubber-stamping of what everyone had already agreed upon ahead of time.

So how did Chattanooga manage to do all this behind closed doors? It started innocuously enough. The city council's chairman formed a redistricting committee of four city council members to bring forth a recommendation to the full council.

But instead of holding meetings open to the public like other city council committees do, the redistricting committee convened private meetings with executive staff of the mayor's office. Unlike other committees, the redistricting committee gave no public notice of its meetings nor kept minutes.

Based on comments from the committee's chair to the press, Chattanooga may try to argue that the redistricting committee's meetings were not "meetings" subject to the open meetings act by contending that the committee didn't decide anything or "deliberate" toward a decision during these meetings, but rather just heard from staff.

This was the first technique used by the committee to justify operating outside public view. But it's a technique that takes a narrow view of the open meetings law and we know that governing bodies usually don't operate this way. Under this narrow view of the law, anytime a government official gave a presentation to a city council or county commission, such as the mayor giving a presentation on a budget proposal or the sheriff on a new jail plan, the meeting could be closed to the public because the governing body is only "hearing" from someone, not actually making its decision yet or considering what its decision could be.

The definition set by the Tennessee Supreme Court is specific: "Deliberate" means to "to examine and consult in order to form an opinion."
 A meeting in which the mayor's staff presents information to a city council redistricting committee about redistricting requirements and choices is very much a part of the "examining and consulting" process and is, in fact, key to the big decision that must eventually be made by the governing body. These types of meetings are normally open to the public and should have been open here. One wonders why they were not.

The second technique used is one that I hear about repeatedly from citizens across the state who are frustrated with methods used to keep important issues outside the public eye until it's too late for meaningful citizen input.
 The redistricting committee

instructed the mayor's staff to meet individually with each council member about potential district boundaries.

City staff proceeded to spend "hundreds of hours" with council members in these private individual meetings. And when they introduced a proposed map to the full city council in the first public meeting on the issue, it was clear that staff believed all council members were all firmly in agreement with the proposal.

"I think I've spent a lot of time with each of you making changes that you wanted to your districts. We're happy to make more if you want them, but the last word I have from every member of the council is that you're fine with this," said Chris Anderson, then the mayor's administrator of innovation delivery and performance.

These serial meetings in which city staff serves as an intermediary, talking individually with council members to bring a governing body into agreement behind the scenes, is perhaps one of the most crafty, clandestine ways to rob the public of the opportunity to hear their representatives publicly debate issues.

In this case, citizens interested in the issue had even asked at the time the ad hoc committee was created to be alerted when the committee started its work. That request fell on deaf ears.

A determination to have consequential discussions in private and to come to consensus on a plan in private through mediated conversations with city staff prevailed. That is not what the open meetings law prescribes, nor is it the way citizens want government to operate.

Deborah Fisher is executive director of Tennessee Coalition for Open Government, an organization that has monitored and researched open government in Tennessee since 2003.

Goodbye 2022

The offices of The Camden Chronicle & Carroll County News-Leader will be closed on **Friday, December 30** and will reopen **Monday, January 2** in celebration of The New Year. **Deadline for The Camden Chronicle and Carroll County News-Leader will be Thursday, December 29 at 9 a.m.**

Place a photo of your baby in honor of their First Year in

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2023

LOCAL

Discovery Park of America offering free admission for children and \$10 for adults throughout January

Thanks to a partnership with Magnolia Place Assisted Living, children 17 and younger will receive free admission to Discovery Park of America throughout the month of January 2023. Adult general admission will be just \$10 in January to kick off the museum and heritage park's 10th birthday.

There will also be many other opportunities for children and adults to celebrate Discovery Park's 10th birthday throughout the year. Included are updates to two of the museum's most popular experiences — Discovery Theater and the Water Tables in the Simmons Bank Children's Exploration Gallery.

The designers of the new Water Tables have opted for a larger experience that snakes throughout the entire gallery and incorporates many new interactive activities. New elements added include a fishing pond, interactive rain clouds, moveable aqueducts, many new water toys and an activity that encourages children to direct fog using a series of pipes.

Another updated space, The Discovery Theater, was recently upgraded to incorporate a state-

of-the-art, laser-illuminated 3D projection system, the latest high-efficiency 40,000-lumen laser projector on the market and an advanced surround-sound system. The ability to show 3-D films will provide significant new programming capabilities in the theater. In 2023, two award-winning 3D films will be shown throughout the day. "Dinosaurs of Antarctica 3D" uses the latest in CGI technology to follow a team of paleoecologists on a quest to understand the southern continent's profound transformation from a warm and bio-diverse Mesozoic to the frozen desert we know today. "Tiny Giants 3D" is an adventure film created by the award-winning nature filmmakers Michael Gunton ("Africa, One Life," "Madagascar") and Mark Brownlow ("Planet Earth," "South Pacific") and narrated by English actor, broadcaster and comedian Stephen Fry.

Discovery Park's new greenhouses and the Farm Credit Mid-America Education Pavilion will also open in 2023 and will provide hands-on educational spaces for visitors to learn more about the horticult-

ure of the region. A new permanent exhibit that will open in 2023, "Duck, Duck, Goose: Waterfowl of the Mississippi Flyway," is being created in partnership with Ducks Unlimited. The exhibit will use three-dimensional objects, interactive elements and hands-on experiences to tell the story of waterfowl hunting, conservation and the ecosystem of the Mississippi Flyway.

Open Jan. 21 to May 21, 2023, is a temporary exhibit, "Inside the Cornerstone Box." It will feature items the Discovery Park exhibits team discovered inside a cornerstone box that was found in the rubble of Dresden First United Methodist Church of Dresden, Tennessee, after the devastating tornado in 2021. From June 1 to Oct. 29, 2023, The Southern Artist Showcase gallery will feature the work of Kimberly Greentor, Bugg, award-winning artist and member of the Oneida Nation on the Six Nations Reserve in Ontario, Canada. Residing in Obion County, Tennessee, Bugg is one of the nation's top Native American artists, and her art will be displayed in conjunction with Discovery Park's



CHILDREN FREE - Discovery Park of America offers free admission for children and \$10 admission for adults throughout the month of January 2023.

inaugural Northwest Tennessee Native American Education Pow Wow to be held Oct. 27 - 29, 2023. The Northwest Tennessee Photography Club Showcase will be updated in June and December 2023, and an additional exhibit, exclusive to Discovery Park and featuring photographs by outdoorsman Seth Dortch of Union City, Tennessee, will be on display Aug. 11, 2023 to March 31, 2024. The photographs in this exhibit were taken during waterfowl hunts along the Mississippi Fly-

way and in the Reelfoot Lake region.

New hours in 2023 will also provide more opportunities to visit. From January through February and September through December, Discovery Park will be open Tuesday through Sunday and closed on Mondays. From March through August, Discovery Park will be open seven days a week. Days and hours of operation along with more information to plan a visit can be found at DiscoveryParkofAmerica.com/visit.

UTM spring semester begins Jan. 12

Spring semester classes at UTM will begin Thursday, Jan. 12, following the university's winter holiday that includes the Christmas and New Year's Day closing observances. The university's main campus and five regional centers in Jackson, Parsons, Ripley, Selmer, and Somerville will re-open Monday, Jan. 2, 2023. Administrative offices at all locations will reopen Jan. 3.

Current and new students can register for spring semester classes Jan. 12-18, with Jan. 18 the final day to add classes. Other important spring semes-

ter dates include:

- Jan. 6, Spring New Student Orientation
- Jan. 16, Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Feb. 20, Test Flight Academic Preview Day
- March 20-26, Spring Break
- March 27, Early summer/fall registration begins
- April 1, Spring Preview Day
- April 7, Spring Holiday
- April 28, Classes end
- May 1-5, Final exams
- May 5-6, Spring Commencement
- Summer orientation and registration (SOAR) dates are set

for students who will enter the university in fall 2023. SOAR dates are May 22-23; June 9, 23, 26 (virtual); July 14, 24; and Aug. 4. Transfer orientation dates for 2023 are April 21, June 8 and 26 (virtual), July 13, and Aug. 4.

For more information about attending UTM, call the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 731-881-7020, visit www.utm.edu, or email admissions@utm.edu. To contact or schedule a visit to a UTM Regional Center, email outreach@utm.edu or call 731-881-7080.

Union students earn honors

Union University recently published the names of students who achieved academic honors for the fall 2022 semester. The President's List included 346 students for the fall 2022 semester, while the Dean's List boasted 374 names.

The President's List includes full-time students who achieve a 4.0 GPA for the semester. From

the Benton County area, Annalise Wade, of Big Sandy; Jordan Vick, of Camden; Karlie Davis, of Holladay; and Grace White, of New Johnsonville, all were named to the President's List.

The Dean's List includes full-time students who achieve a 3.5-3.9 GPA for the term. Julia Farmer, of Camden, and Isabella Flowers, of New Johnson-

ville, were among area students named to the Dean's List.

Founded in 1823, Union is characterized by quality Christ-centered teaching and learning. It offers liberal arts training in more than 100 majors and programs of study along with professional programs in business, education, and nursing.

Keep alcohol under control during the holidays

Counseling Corner

American Counseling Association

The holiday season brings increased amounts of stress and pressure. It also brings many opportunities to escape that stress. From office parties to family gatherings, the holidays offer lots of chances to be with people we like and enjoy a drink or two... or, too often, more.

Holiday drinking can be a very real problem for many reasons. One is that there are more occasions to consume alcohol, and often in situations that encourage excessive consumption.

In addition, holiday parties may push people to drink who seldom do so at other times. Such people may have lower alcohol tolerance, meaning just a drink or two can leave them quite intoxicated. One drink can be too much if you get in trouble because of it.

The holiday season also produces high numbers of alcohol-related traffic accidents and deaths. And even a driving drunk citation will carry serious implications.

But excessive holiday drinking can also produce other stress-inducing problems. Just one unthinking comment or improper action at an office holiday party has sabotaged more

than one promising career. And who hasn't experienced a horrific family gathering when Uncle Fred starts drinking and sharing his feelings about family members?

The key is to keep holiday alcohol consumption under control. Here are some tips on how to make that easier:

- Remember that you have choices. A holiday party is an opportunity to socialize and have fun, not just drink. You get to choose whether to drink or not, and when to stop drinking.

- Feel self-confident enough to say no. Just because alcohol is available, or a host is pushing drinks, doesn't mean you have to indulge. There's nothing embarrassing about asking for a non-alcoholic drink. If someone tries to shame you into drinking, realize the problem is his, not yours.

- Use a designated driver. Even small amounts of alcohol can impair driving ability. Why take chances? No designated driver? Then call a cab.

- If you're going to drink alcohol, decide ahead of time how many drinks are right for you. Choose a number that keeps you in control and then stick to it.

Don't add to holiday stress and pressure with alcohol related problems. You have the ability to make choices to drink wisely. And if alcohol is a problem you can't control, seek help. Your physician, local hospital or a professional counselor can help you attack the problem.

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AVATAR: THE WAY OF WATER (PG-13)

Sun.-Thur. - 7:25
Fri. & Sat. - 3:25
3D - Sun.-Thur. - 7:25
3D - Fri. & Sat. - 1:25

PUSS IN BOOTS: THE LAST WISH (PG)

Sun.-Thur. - 7:35
Fri. & Sat. - 1:35, 4:35(3D), 7:35

WHITNEY HOUSTON: I WANNA DANCE WITH SOMEBODY (PG-13)

Sun.-Thur. - 7:30
Fri. & Sat. - 1:30, 4:30, 7:30

BABYLON (R)

Sun.-Thur. - 7:30
Fri. & Sat. - 1:30, 7:30

VIOLENT NIGHT (R)

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OBITUARIES

Children & Grief



Sunrise

David Coy

During the years 1901 to 1904 the artist Pablo Picasso painted all his paintings in shades of blue. His subjects were the lonely, suffering, impoverished, and outcasts in society. I understand from this we all understand and experience grief, sorrow and healing from our sorrow uniquely different from others. The above is how Pablo Picasso understood his subjects and interpreted them in shades of blue. As we all look at our sorrow uniquely from those around us, children who may be too often overlooked are no different. They deserve and depend upon us certain attributes in times of sorrow. We should speak and walk in our journey with grief that they may emulate what they are seeing in us. No matter our struggles there is hope of tomorrow if breathe remains we have hope for a better

tomorrow. Children will not always share what is going on inside in times of sorrow no more than we who are adults do so. We as adults will need to display proper manner of life before them even during times when we are feeling blue. We may not feel like celebrating the holiday, but what about our children? What are their feelings during this holiday season in their journey with grief? Are we modeling a posture of hope before children who are looking up to us? "For I reckon that the sufferings of the present time (are) not worthy (to be compared) with the glory about to be revealed in us...and hope beheld is not hope; for what anyone beholds why does he also hope for" (hope), Romans 8:18, 24. Looking forward this text views hope in the future. Our future always possesses the hope potential. We may endure if necessary this holiday season if this is not a time we are looking toward with joyful anticipation. If we are looking forward with joyful anticipation then perhaps we may help comfort those who are not. ~David.



Viola J. Tinnell 1948-2022

Viola Joyce Tinnell, 74, of Camden, passed away Wednesday, Dec. 21, at Jackson-Madison County General Hospital in Jackson. Memorial services were held Wednesday, Dec. 28, in the chapel of Plunk Funeral Home of Camden.

Ms. Tinnell was born June 25, 1948, in Chicago, Ill., to the late Irville C. Miske and Clara W. Cochran Miske.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a sister, Carol W. Dickson.

She is survived by a daughter, Dianna Miller, of Camden; two sons, Terry (Tracy) Andersen, of Town Creek, Ala., and Andrew Andersen, of Camden; five grandchildren, Adam Andersen, of Holladay, Shayna Clements, and Devyn (Anna) Andersen, both of New Johnsonville, Corey Miller and Chance (Christian) Miller, both of Waverly; 10 great-grandchildren, a brother, Richard Miske, of Champaign, Ill.; and several nieces and nephews.



Gustine C. Williams 1929-2022

Gustine Cantrell Williams, 93, of New Lexington, Ohio passed away at 11:15 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 20, at New Lexington Care and Rehabilitation Center. Graveside services were held Wednesday, Dec. 28, at Bakers Chapel Cemetery. Stockdale-Malin Funeral Home of Big Sandy was in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. Williams was born Sept. 6, 1929, in Big Sandy, to the late Gus and Mary French Cantrell. She liked to sew, bake, go camping and visiting with her family. She was a member of Brecksville Church of God of Prophecy.

In addition to her parents, she preceded in death by her husband, Cleather Williams, and baby, Darlene Williams.

She is survived by her brother, Wyly Cantrell, of Big Sandy; two sisters, Ruby Clement, of Big Sandy, and Ann Blagg, of New Lexington; nieces and nephews, Cindy (Charles) Dyer, of Paris, Debbie Cherry, and Randy (Lori) Cantrell, both of Big Sandy, Rita (Bo) Burchett, and Larry (Cindy) Blagg, both of Lancaster, and Linda (Dan) Binkley, of New Lexington; and numerous other nieces and nephews.



Jerrell F. Robinson 1941-2022

Jerrell F. Robinson, 81 of Big Sandy, passed away peacefully at his residence Saturday, Dec. 24. Funeral services will be held Friday, Dec. 30, at 2:30 p.m. in the chapel of Ridgeway Funeral Home of Paris with Ricky Jordan officiating. Burial will follow at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery in Buchanan. Visitation will be Friday, from 9:30 a.m. until the service time at 2:30 p.m. at the funeral home.

Mr. Robinson was born Oct. 11, 1941, in Buchanan, to the late Clifton Robinson and Ruth E. Osborn Robinson. He was a Veteran of the United States Army and retired after a lengthy career as a skilled machinist. He was awarded Machinist of the Year in the Nashville area two years in a row. In his retirement years, he enjoyed spending time with his family and attending Pleasant Hill Methodist Church in Camden.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by three brothers, James "Bubba", Ronnie, and Billy Robinson.

He is survived by his five children, Melissa (Ken) Dickie, of Gallatin, Jay (Jennifer) Robinson, of Big Sandy, Jeremy (Autumn) Robinson, of Puryear, Joel (Fiancée Deidra Wilford) Robinson, of Hazel, Ky., and Brandon (Keely) Robinson, of Smyrna; a sister, Mildred J. Curd, of Murray, Ky.; and four grandchildren, Gage (Sydney) Davis, Jaycie Robinson, Zoey Robinson, and Weston Robinson.

Pallbearers will be Jay, Jeremy, Joel, and Brandon Robinson, Ken Dickie, and Chris Robinson.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that memorials be made to the Pleasant Hill Methodist Church, 1531 Pleasant Hill Rd, Camden, TN 38320.



Billie C. Wiltshire 1935-2022

Billie Carlene Betts Wiltshire, 87, of Camden, passed away on Saturday, Dec. 24. Funeral services will be held Thursday, Dec. 29, at 2 p.m., in the chapel of at Oakdale Funeral Home of Camden with Kenneth Beal officiating. Burial will follow at the Camden City Cemetery. Visitation will be Thursday, from noon until service time at 2 p.m. at the funeral home.

Mrs. Wiltshire was born May 12, 1935, in the Providence Community near Bells, and was the only child of the late James C. Betts and Rose N. Raburn Betts. As a small child, her family moved to Memphis where she lived until she married. She graduated from Tech High School in the Class of 1953. Carlene was married on February 5, 1955, in Hernando, Miss., to Homer Wiltshire Jr. They began their married life in Elizabethtown, Ky. She was a military wife and homemaker who raised four children while being stationed with her husband in the United States, Germany, England, and Okinawa, Japan. They retired to Camden after serving 20 years in the United States Army. After moving to Camden, she pursued her passion and became a professional genealogist. She was a member of Cowell's Chapel United Methodist Church.

In addition to her parents, Carlene was preceded in death by an infant son Timothy.

She is survived by her husband of nearly 68 years, Homer Wiltshire Jr.; children, Drew Wiltshire, of Nashville, Andrea (Dwayne) Greer, of Camden, Gerald (Tammy) Wiltshire, of Jackson, and Eddie (Sissie) Wiltshire, of Paris; five grandchildren, Missy (Rick) Moody and Kelly (Greg) Andrews, both of Paris; Eric Haldeman, of Havre, Mont., Amy (David) Basham, of Jackson, and Bethany (Grant) Luckey, of Humboldt; 10 great-grandchildren Madison, Makenzie, Gavin, Britton, Kane, Anett, Edina, Mark, Lucy, Ben, and four great-great grandchildren, AvaJewel, Eli, Jameson, and Maelynn.

In lieu of flowers the family request that donations be made to Cowell's Chapel United Methodist Church at 1681 Natchez Trace Rd, Camden, TN 38320 or The American Cancer Society in memory of Carlene Wiltshire.

Announcements

ONGOING ANNOUNCEMENTS Special Needs Adult Program

Saturdays at 5 p.m. at the Independent Church of Big Sandy, 95 Main St. For info, contact Christina O'Neal 517-867-9280. This is where you will find friends and the love of Jesus in a safe, welcoming place.

Drug and Alcohol Abuse Help

Narconon can help families overcome drug and alcohol addiction. If you or someone you care about needs help with drug or alcohol addiction, call 800-431-1754 or visit www.narcononnewliferetreat.org.

Church Library

The First Baptist Church Library is open to the public on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 269 Post Oak Ave., Camden.

Senior Center

The Benton County Senior Center is completely open with all activities and would like to have all Benton County seniors join us. Check out our Facebook page for a calendar of events or stop by 119 Cole Ave. and pick one up. Call 584-4101 for more info.

UMW Thrift Shop

The United Methodist Women's Thrift Shop is open Tuesday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., at First United Methodist in Camden, just off the Court Square. In the event of a burn-out or transient need, call 584-6081.

Genealogical Society

The Benton County Genealogical Society meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Tennessee Room of the Benton County Library in



Camden. For the safety of all attendees, masks and social distancing will be observed.

Celebrate Recovery

Celebrate Recovery for hurts, hang-ups and addictions meet every Monday night at 6 p.m. at Missionary Grove Baptist Church in Camden.

NA Meeting

Narcotics Anonymous meets Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 7 p.m. in the basement of the Camden Library at 121 S. Forrest Ave.

AA Meetings

Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Tuesday night at 7 p.m. and Friday night at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Camden.

Al-Anon Meeting

Al-Anon Family Group meets Thursday at 7 p.m. at Cumberland Presbyterian in Camden. Enter the door on the

west side of the building and go downstairs. For more info. call 584-4924.

Family Support Program

There is a support program for those helping a person with a severe disability. For more info. contact Amy Davidson at 855-2316 or adavidsonfc@bellsouth.net.

American Legion

American Legion Post 228, Big Sandy, has Karaoke every Saturday night from 8-12 p.m. and a DJ every Wednesday night from 5-9 p.m.

Veteran's Meeting

VFW Post #2109 and Disabled American Veterans Chapter #30 meet every third Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at The Grainery Restaurant in Camden. For more info. call 584-2657 or 731-431-3012. All Veterans are welcome.

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How Well Do You Remember Historical Scenes From Benton County's

GOLDEN PAST

Jack (RJ) and Ella Mae (Robinson) Cole with Son, Ras L. in 1927

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Cook Up Some Good Luck With These Traditional New Year's Day Recipes

Instant Pot Black-eyed Peas

Ingredients:

- 1 Tbsp Olive Oil
- 1 small Onion, chopped
- 2 Celery Ribs (Stalks), diced
- 1 Bell Pepper, red or green
- 2 small Bay Leaves
- 2 sprigs Fresh Thyme, or 1/2 tsp dried
- 3 tsp Smoked Paprika
- 1/2 tsp Black Pepper
- 1 tsp Coarse Salt, or 3/4 tsp table salt
- 4 cloves Garlic, pressed or minced
- 1 Jalapeño Pepper, seeded and diced small
- 3 1/2 cups Chicken Broth, low sodium
- 2 tsp Balsamic Vinegar
- 1-2 slices Bacon, chopped
- 1 small Ham Hock (or meaty ham bone)
- 1 1/4 cups Black-Eyed Peas, dry*
- 2 cups Collard Greens, (optional) chopped in 2" pieces

Directions:

Turn the pressure cooker on to the Sauté function. When the display reads Hot, add the oil. Add the onion, celery, and bell pepper, and bay leaves. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the onion starts to turn translucent. Add the thyme, smoked paprika, pepper, and salt. Stir.



Add the garlic and jalapeño. Cook for about 30 seconds, stirring frequently.

Add the broth, balsamic vinegar, bacon, and ham hock.

Stir in the black-eyed peas, and collard greens, if using.

Place the lid on the pressure cooker, locking it in place. Set the steam release knob to the Sealing position. Cancel the Sauté function.

Press the Pressure Cook/Manual button (or dial) and use the + or - button (or dial) to select 17 minutes (for firmer beans choose 14 minutes). High Pressure.

When the cooking cycle has

ended and the pot beeps, let it sit undisturbed for 15 minutes (15 minute Natural Release), then turn the steam release knob to the Venting position to release the remaining steam/pressure.

When the pin in the lid drops down, open it and give the contents a stir. Discard bay leaves and ham hock (the ham hock won't be tender, it is for flavor, but if you can get some meat off of it, add it to the pot!).

Serve over rice for a Hoppin' John, or as is. Enjoy with cornbread to sop up that yummy broth! Happy New Year! Or, any time of year!

Pomegranate Punch

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 cups 100% pomegranate juice, chilled
- 1 1/2 cups cranberry juice cocktail, chilled*
- 3 cups flavored sparkling water and/or sparkling cider, chilled**
- optional garnishes: pomegranate seeds, lemon slices, orange slices, rosemary and/or mint sprigs***

Directions:

In a punch bowl or pitcher, mix together the pomegranate juice and cranberry juice cocktail. Slowly pour in the flavored sparkling water and/or sparkling cider. Garnish with pomegranate seeds, lemon or orange slices, and/or herb sprigs. Serve immediately over ice.

* For a sweeter, less tart punch, use a cranberry juice blend instead of cranberry juice cocktail.

** For a sweeter punch, use all sparkling cider; a standard sized bottle is about 3 cups. For a less sweet, more tart punch,



use all flavored sparkling water. Or, you can use half cider and half sparkling water for a well-balanced option (not too sweet or sour!). You can use any flavor of sparkling water you like. Lemon, lime, or cranberry would be good choices!

*** If you are serving the punch in a pitcher, you will only need about 1 lemon (or orange)

and about 1/4 - 1/2 cup of pomegranate seeds (about 1/4 - 1/2 of a pomegranate) for garnish. If doubling or tripling the recipe and serving in a punch bowl, you will need about 3 - 4 lemons/oranges, and between 1 and 1 1/2 cups of pomegranate seeds to cover the surface.

Slow Cooker Honey BBQ Pulled Pork

Ingredients:

- 2 medium onions, chopped
- 1 clove garlic, diced
- 1 pound boneless pork loin roast
- 1 tablespoon ground black pepper
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 (12 ounce) bottle BBQ sauce
- 1/2 cup honey

Directions:

Place onions into the bottom of a slow cooker and scatter garlic over top. Set pot roast in the cooker and season with pepper and salt. Pour BBQ sauce over pot roast, making sure roast, onions, and garlic are completely covered. Drizzle honey over roast only.

Cover and cook until meat is easily shredded with 2 forks, on Low for about 12 hours or High for about 6 hours.



Grape Salad

Ingredients:

- 2 1/2 lb. Red and green seedless grapes
- 4 oz. cream cheese, at room temperature
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1/4 tsp. Kosher salt
- 3 tbsp. packed light brown sugar, divided
- 3/4 cup toasted pecans

Directions:

Halve half of the grapes. Stir together cream cheese, sour cream, salt, and 2 tablespoons brown sugar in a bowl until sugar is dissolved. Add grapes and stir gently to coat. Top with pecans and remaining brown sugar just before serving.



Skillet Cornbread with Honey Butter

Ingredients:

- For the Honey Butter**
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, at room temperature, plus more for pan
- 2 tbsp. pure honey
- Kosher salt
- For the Cornbread**
- 1 cup fine cornmeal
- 1 cup all-purpose flour, spooned and leveled
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. kosher salt
- 1 cup whole milk
- 2 large eggs
- 6 tbsp. (3/4 stick) unsalted butter, melted

Directions:

Make honey butter: Use a fork to smash and stir together butter, honey, and salt in a bowl until well combined. Cover and refrigerate at least 30 minutes.

Make cornbread: Preheat oven to 425°F. Grease a 10-inch cast-iron skillet or 8-inch square baking dish. Whisk together



cornmeal, flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt in a bowl. In a second bowl, whisk together milk, eggs, and butter. Add wet ingredients to dry ingredients and stir just until combined. Transfer batter to prepared pan.

Bake until top is lightly golden and a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean, 15 to 17 minutes. Cool in pan 10 minutes. Serve warm with honey butter alongside.

Southern Style Collard Greens

Ingredients:

- 2 tablespoons bacon fat, lard, or vegetable oil
- 1 medium onion, sliced from root to tip
- 1 ham hock
- 2 garlic cloves, smashed
- 4 cups chicken stock
- 1 to 2 cups water
- 8 to 10 cups (about 2 pounds) stemmed, cleaned, and chopped collard greens
- Kosher salt to taste
- Vinegar and hot sauce to taste

Directions:

Heat the bacon fat in a large pot set over medium-high heat. Sauté the onion in the bacon fat, stirring often, until the edges begin to brown, about 5 minutes.

Add the ham hock, smashed garlic, chicken stock, and water and bring to a simmer. Cover and cook for 1 hour.



Add the collard greens and cook, partially covered, until they are tender, another 45 minutes to an hour.

To serve, remove the ham hock, pull the meat off the

bones, and chop. Mix the meat back with the greens.

Taste and season with salt, if needed. Serve with vinegar and hot sauce at the table.



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COMMUNITY

New laws take effect on Jan. 1

Several new laws will take effect in Tennessee on Sunday, Jan. 1, 2023. Mostly sponsored by Republicans, these laws are intended to benefit Tennesseans throughout the state.

One new law offers tax relief to farmers. The law exempts farmers from sales tax on items and services used for agriculture production, including building materials, repair services, and labor, among other expenses used in agriculture production. The tax reduction totals \$2.8 million, and does not include items such as automobiles, household appliances, or fuel used in vehicles that travel on public highways in the state. "Agriculture is the backbone of Tennessee's economy, and I

am glad we can provide assistance to hardworking farmers who are dedicated to putting food on the tables of families across the region," said Senator John Stevens (R-Huntington), who sponsored the legislation. "By eliminating this sales tax, we can help small family farms stay in business by lowering costs and making it easier to turn a profit.

Another new law aims to support foster youth. The law reimburses eligible relatives of foster youth to support the cost of raising the child. It also expands eligibility to ages 18-21 for foster youth transitioning from state custody to adulthood to access services. This legislation will help keep foster kids in

a family without them coming into state custody.

Two other new laws offer consumer and privacy protections. One of them requires businesses that allow someone to sign up for a service or subscription online to provide a clear way to end or cancel the subscription without any additional steps. If a company violates the act, then the individual who suffered a loss may bring civil action for damages.

The other law strengthens privacy protections for Tennessee homeowners who do not want their home addresses easily accessible. The law allows homeowners to file a written request to the property assessor to have their first and last name

appear as "unlisted" in the ownership field of online databases.

Another new law mandates annual human trafficking training for employees in the Departments of Corrections, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, and Human Services. These state employees are directed to work with a nonprofit charitable organization to provide mandatory training to the appropriate personnel on the identification, intervention, prevention and treatment of human trafficking victims.

The Tennessee General Assembly will convene on Tuesday, Jan. 10, to begin the 2023 session of the 113th General Assembly.

TDS to install fiber network in Bruceton

TDS Telecommunications has started construction on a fiber-optic network upgrade in Bruceton. The project will deliver up to one-gig internet speeds for homes, and up to 10-gig dedicated business connections, along with phone services. The all-fiber network will ultimately connect approximately 2,500 locations across the community. "Fiber-optic technology is in demand because it delivers reliable, super-fast internet," said Senior Vice President of Cor-

porate Affairs Drew Petersen. "These high-quality connections are what residents want for work at home opportunities, virtual school and meetings, online health care, and simply enjoying the wide variety of entertainment options available."

The network build activity involves burying conduit and fiber cable in public utility easement areas and hanging cable on utility poles. Services will launch to customers in phases as sections of the network are completed.

The company expects installations to begin next spring with the project wrapping up in late fall 2023.

Addresses included in the TDS build area will gain a range of super-fast internet options. All speeds come with symmetrical upload and download speed. Phone service will also be available. Businesses can gain dedicated connections up to 10 gigs, as well as phone service including managed IP, a hosted voice over IP solution.

Serving customers in Bruceton for 42 years, TDS delivers high-speed internet, TV entertainment, and phone services to rural and suburban communities across the U.S. With 1.2 million connections, TDS is a rapidly growing technology company that offers advanced communications solutions, dedicated internet service, data networking, and hosted-managed services. Visit TDSFiber.com or call 888-225-5837 for more information about the new service options.

ILLNESS

From IA

The West Tennessee Regional Health Department monitors information for Benton, Carroll, Chester, Crockett, Decatur, Dyer, Fayette, Gibson, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, Lake, Lauderdale, McNairy, Tipton, and Weakley counties.

The Centers for Disease Control is still reporting high numbers of flu-like illnesses statewide. Morris said the state experienced a significant number of cases at the onset of the flu season, and while the number of cases remains at an all-time high, the last two weeks have shown a decline in those illnesses in West Tennessee.

This time of year is considered a peak time for respiratory illnesses and West Tennessee hospitals, health departments, and clinics are seeing their share of RSV, Type A flu, and COVID-19 cases. Morris noted it is hard to track actual positive flu cases, but THD can conduct

syndromic surveillance and gather data based on patients' symptoms.

Morris recommends that anyone with symptoms of a respiratory illness visit their doctor and get tested, especially if they have a fever. He advised there are therapeutic medications available for flu and COVID to help ease symptoms. Those with symptoms should avoid contact with others, as respiratory illnesses are spread through droplets from coughing or sneezing.

According to the CDC, people infected with RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) usually show symptoms within 4-6 days after getting infected. Symptoms of RSV infection usually include runny nose, decrease in appetite, coughing, sneezing, fever, and wheezing. These symptoms usually appear in stages and not all at once.

In very young infants with RSV, the only symptoms may be irritability, decreased activi-

ty, and breathing difficulties. Almost all children will have had an RSV infection by their second birthday, the CDC reports. RSV is the most common cause of bronchiolitis and pneumonia in children younger than one year of age. Those who have difficulty breathing or become dehydrated may need to be hospitalized. Most RSV infections reportedly resolve within two weeks at most.

Influenza Type A symptoms usually come on suddenly, according to the CDC. People who have flu often experience symptoms such as fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headaches, and fatigue. Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults. The CDC reports not everyone with flu will have a fever. Flu can lead to sinus and ear infections, as well as pneumonia.

People with COVID-19 have

had a wide range of symptoms reported, ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. Anyone can have mild to severe symptoms and symptoms may change with new variants and vaccination status, according to the CDC.

Possible symptoms of COVID include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. According to the CDC, COVID spreads more easily than the flu.

Local health departments provide testing for flu and COVID as well as vaccinations for both respiratory illnesses. According to the CDC, vaccination remains the best protection against both flu and COVID.

From IA

FRIGID

Since the temperature got so low, there were worries concerning people who might be without heat. Citizens were advised to stay indoors; to place generators outside and as far from the house as possible if they must be used; to check on their neighbors, especially the elderly; and to bring all pets inside or ensure that they had adequate shelter.

Frigid, powerful winds moved the storm along. Power outages and frozen water lines were a major concern during the cold weather siege, but luckily the snow did not stick to the power lines and there were no

heavy accumulations.

According to Benton County Electric System (BCES) General Manager Scott Owens, a step 50 - rolling blackouts were mandated by TVA to all 153 local power companies to prevent widespread system outages. Fortunately, by mid-morning Saturday, the rolling blackouts were cancelled.

TVA and the power companies it supports did anticipate and prepare for this event. However, the winter weather was worse than anticipated, with extreme low temperatures stressing the system and high winds damaging several struc-

tures at power facilities. BCES and other TVA partners worked diligently throughout the storm to ensure that public power customers were without power for no longer than absolutely necessary.

To put this into context, from Thursday night through Saturday, TVA set an all-time TVA record for energy delivery: 740 gigawatt-hours. The previous record was 706 gigawatt-hours in 2018. TVA also set an all-time winter peak power demand record of 33,425 MW. Normally during this time of year, the system manages demand around 24,000 MWs. This is the third

largest peak demand in TVA's history.

Throughout the extreme weather event, TVA and partners like BCES worked proactively to implement plans to temporarily reduce load to help ensure the reliability of the power grid for the whole region. In all but a few cases, this strategy was a success.

"We appreciate the cooperation, understanding, and support of our customers during this extraordinary event," said Owens. "We are very glad that we were able to ensure that everyone had power to be warm for Christmas."

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SHOP WITH A COP

SHOP

From IA

take about 30 children to shop, but thanks to the overwhelming support of businesses, individuals, and friends from fellow agencies we were able to serve more than double the number of kids this year.

Smith thanked CPD Records Clerk Connie Wright and Dispatcher Hannah Townsend for all they did in advance of the event to ensure Shop with a Cop 2022 would be the best one yet. Wright and Townsend came up with some extra fund-raising events including a 5K run, a gun raffle spearheaded by the Riding Dirty Jeep Club, and a partnership with McDonald's.

"Not only do Connie and Hannah do an outstanding job in their daily duties at CPD, but they also love this community and always do their part to help with worthwhile causes and activities," Smith said. "I'm very appreciative to both of them."

Shop with a Cop began at Camden Junior High School with registration and a welcome in the gym by CPD officials. While at the school, each child was assigned to an officer for the evening. Santa Claus greeted the kids and posed for pictures. Food items were handed out to parents or guardians of the kids courtesy of Second Harvest Food Bank.

Next kids loaded up into patrol vehicles or fire trucks to be a part of a special caravan that would take them to Walmart. With blue lights flashing and siren blaring, the caravan took a route from CJH to Washington Avenue, then turned right onto Main Street, proceeding to Hwy. 641 and then on to Walmart.

"This was an amazing night," said event organizer Wright after the shopping spree had ended. "All the kids had a fantastic time and we saw that with the many hugs and smiles that they displayed. They also made new friends with their first responder shopping pals. I'm very appreciative to all the officers who participated. I'm also appreciative to everyone who helped us in any way so these kids could have a special night."

Wright related that thanks to the generosity of the communi-

ty over \$18,000 was raised for the event. Those funds went to provide each child with a Walmart gift card valued at \$300 to buy the gifts that they wanted. A few tabs went above \$300, but the officers with them made up the difference.

"We had instances where the officer would provide his or her own money to the child so that they could select a special Christmas gift for a family member. I can't say enough kind words about that type of thoughtfulness from our fellow first responders," Wright said.

"We are very blessed to be able to host this event and I'm thankful to this community and all the partners who supported us. Without them this wouldn't be possible," said Townsend. "It's heartwarming to know that we had a small role in helping these kids have a good Christmas. I think this also demonstrates the positive impact that an officer can have on a child. It's nice to let these kids know that law officers are their friends and will always help them whenever they can."

Trent Johnson, of McKenzie, acted as Santa Claus' special helper for Shop with a Cop commented about his first experience with the event, "The looks on the kids' faces and their smiles were priceless. This was a night I'll never forget and it was an honor and privilege to be there!"

CPD officials stated that they are already looking forward to the 2023 Shop with a Cop program and are considering other fund-raising activities including the possibility of a golf tournament. Said Wright, "I hope we will continue to grow next year and be able to serve even more kids."

"I love the way this program has grown in only four years. It's a strong testament and commitment to many groups, businesses, and individuals who want to see as many kids as possible have a great Christmas," Smith added. "If anyone has suggestions or ideas on how to make Shop with a Cop become more successful as we go forward, please call us at 731-584-4622."



Our New Year's Resolution:
 "We're not happy 'til you are!"

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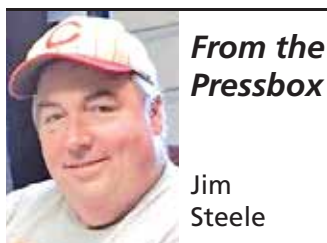
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SPORTS

Section **B**
 December 29, 2022



From the Pressbox

Jim Steele

Good fortune for teams in '22

Yes, Christmas was very good to many sports programs across West Tennessee.

As we draw the curtain on 2022, let's take a look back at how well some of our teams did.

When you look in Weakley, Benton and Carroll counties, the gold glitters. McKenzie won the Class A football title earlier this month and won the girls' state basketball championship in March. MHS performers Savannah Davis (Miss Basketball) and Jackson Cassidy (Mr. Football) earned the state's highest honors as a result. The Rebel baseball team also played for the state title, losing to Eagleville in a tight game last May.

Westview's Lady Chargers won the girls' 2A basketball title over York Institute last March, following up a 2A football crown in 2021.

Ty Simpson won the 2A Mr. Football award while Jada Harrison was a finalist for 2A Miss Basketball.

Camden's Will Douglas won a state championship in the 3200 meters at the state track meet. He was runner-up at the state cross country meet. He will continue his career at Alabama. Meanwhile Camden's Elli Reynoldson captured, once again, the Class A state tennis singles championship. She recently signed to play tennis at Wisconsin.

Jackson-South Side's boys' and girls' basketball teams played to the state championship last year, both teams earning a silver ball with high expectations this season.

West Carroll and McKenzie made it to the boys' state basketball tournament this past season. Gleason and Dresden made it to the Class A girls' draw this past season.

Union University's women's volleyball team, under the tutelage of Stephen Vick, had a banner season, reaching the Gulf South Conference championship round, bowing to West Florida. Jordan Vick and Emily Grace Calhoun earned all-tournament honors.

UT-Martin won back-to-back Ohio Valley Conference football championships, but lost a coin flip to Southeast Missouri for the playoff spot.

Bethel had its first 11-0 campaign and qualified for THE NAIA playoffs. The Wildcats suffered a 27-17 setback to Keiser (Fla.) in the opening round.

Let's not forget the crazy run by the Tennessee Vols' baseball team, only to lose in the Super Regional to Notre Dame. I suspect we haven't heard the last from Tony Vitello and the Big Orange sluggers.

Speaking of Big Orange, two years ago, Tennessee football had reached rock bottom. The brass at UT scoured the program and delivered the fan base Josh Heupel. Since then, the Vols spent one week at No. 1, spent a good chunk of the season in the play-off conversation and finds itself playing Clemson in the Orange Bowl this week.

That's crazy! Sort if like this arctic weather we've had.

It's been a good year for sports fans in the area this year and here's hoping for many more unexpected delights in the new year.

And to all those who take time to visit this corner of the paper each week, may you all have a safe, happy, healthy and prosperous 2023!

Jim Steele is a correspondent for Magic Valley Publishing and the host of The Pressbox radio show, which airs 4-6 p.m. CT, Monday-Thursday on WRJB, 95.9 FM, Camden, Tenn.



CHS LIONS' COMMUNITY SERVICE

The CHS Lions basketball team served 100 meals at Christ Café, held on Thursday evening, Dec. 15, at Camden First United Methodist Church in Camden. Said FUMC administrative assistant Martha Holifield, "These guys not only have awesome basketball skills, they also have hearts of gold! I am thankful to Coach Dave Roberts for encouraging them to help their community." The Lions and Lady Lions basketball teams have been busy with tournaments over the holiday break, and are ready to get back to regular season play when school resumes in January.



JINGLE BELL RUN

Despite the poor weather, a few brave souls ventured out for the United Way of Benton County Jingle Bell Run on Saturday, Dec. 10. In the photo above, these dedicated runners definitely did their part to support the United Way! From left are Lynn Sevall, Judy Arnold, Susie Belisle, Tara Roberts, Sheri Osment and Erin Taylor. In the photo below, (from right) Rachel Richard, Bea Lashlee, and UWBC Director Jo Jones display some of those who have supported the United Way this year.

TWRA winter trout stocking resumes

The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency's 2022-23 winter trout stocking program resumes in early January at selected locations as the New Year begins. Stocking will continue through the middle of March.

The program provides numerous "close to home" trout fishing opportunities for anglers during the winter months. These fisheries also provide a great opportunity to introduce children or first-time anglers to fishing.

The trout will average about 10 inches in length. The daily creel limit is seven, but there is no size limit. Anglers are reminded that a trout license is needed in addition to the fishing license.

The first regional stocking dates for 2023 will be on Jan. 4-5. For West Tennessee, the



location stocked on these dates will be Lake Graham in Jackson.

Please note that dates and locations are subject to change. Updates can be found on TWRA's website at www.tnwildlife.org

in the fishing section and the 2022-23 Winter Trout Stocking icon. For a full list of dates and areas to be stocked, see the 2022-23 stocking schedule and tailwater schedule on the website.



Apply now for spring turkey quota hunts

The application period for the TWRA 2023 Spring Turkey Quota Hunts is open. Applications are available and will be accepted until midnight on Jan. 11 at any TWRA license agent, TWRA regional office, or online at goutdoorstennessee.com.

Mailed applications will not be accepted.

Hunters have up to 13 choices of areas to hunt in but will be drawn for only one. Applicants may not use the same hunt code more than once. There are seven sites that include 52 hunts

and five youth-only hunts. A computer drawing will be held to determine the successful applications based on the priority drawing system.

Youth hunters (ages 6-16 by the date of the hunt) may submit one application for the regular quota hunt and one application for the youth-only quota hunt. No other persons may apply more than once.

A permit fee will not be charged to Annual Sportsman (Type 004) or Lifetime Sportsman (Types 402-405) license holders or seniors with an Annual Senior Sportsman License (Type 167). For all other license holders, the cost is \$12 per permit plus the \$1 agent fee. There is a \$2 fee if application is made on the Internet. When applying at a license agent, hunters must remain at the location while the application is processed to get a receipt with a confirmation number when the application is complete.

Hunters with Internet access may apply for a spring turkey quota hunt online by visiting <https://quotahunt.goutdoorstennessee.com>. Once the Internet site has been accessed, hunters can follow the on-screen directions.

The 2023 statewide spring turkey season is April 15-May 28 and the statewide Young Sportsman Hunt is April 8-9. Areas for anyone to hunt include Chickasaw State Forest, Chuck Swan State Forest, Happy Hollow, Natchez Trace North, Natchez Trace South, Oak Ridge, and Yuchi Refuge. Youth-only hunts will be held in Tellico West, Tellico McGhee Carson Unit, and Yuchi Refuge.



BOW trapper workshop to be held at Buffalo Ridge Refuge



The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency and the Tennessee Fur Harvesters Association

will be hosting a Becoming an Outdoors Woman (BOW) Trapper Workshop Jan. 20-21 at Buffalo Ridge Refuge in Humphreys County.

Instructors at the camp are outdoor women who will teach the fundamentals of trapping, snaring, fur handling, and tanning animals. The two-day

workshop is free, but registration is mandatory, and participation is limited.

Check-in for the training camp will begin with registration on Friday from 5-7 p.m., with classroom instruction from 7-9 p.m. Saturday's session will begin with breakfast at 7 a.m. with instruction to begin at 8 a.m.

Lunch also be provided at noon and instruction will resume from 1-5 p.m.

On-site primitive camping is available. Participants must provide their own camping gear, have appropriate clothing, and bring note taking materials. Hotels are located near the refuge for those who do not want to camp.

For more information, contact John Daniels of the Tennessee Fur Harvesters Association at johndaniel.tfha.trapper@gmail.com. Registration may be completed online at <https://license.goutdoorstennessee.com/Event/ViewEvent.aspx?id=46344>.

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 1550 Natchez Trace Road, Camden.
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 1923 Baker's Chapel Church Rd., Big Sandy

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 1681 Natchez Trace Road, Camden
 584-8815

Eva United Methodist Church
 21 Pilot Knob Road, Eva

First United Methodist Church
 104 North Church Avenue, Camden
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CamdenFuMC@gmail.com
www.camdenfirstumc.org

Flatwoods United Methodist Church
 Flatwoods Road, Camden
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Liberty United Methodist Church
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2 Chronicles 7:14
 14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

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 2 Thessalonians 3:16

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CLASSIFIEDS | PUBLIC NOTICES

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF JOB OPENING WATER/WASTEWATER DEPT

THE CITY OF CAMDEN WATER/WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT HAS AN OPENING FOR:

ONE (1) WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR

The City of Camden Water/Wastewater department is seeking a qualified applicant to fill a Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator position. Minimum requirement is a high school diploma or GED. Applicant must be able to obtain Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Biological/Natural Systems Wastewater Treatment Operator license within 2 years. Applicant must have a valid TN Driver's License.

Interested candidates must submit a resume and complete a job application in person at Camden City Hall located at 110 Hwy 641 South, Camden, TN. The deadline for submissions is 2:00pm on Thursday, January 5, 2023.

Our office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00am - 4:00pm

JOHN BEASLEY
SUPERINTENDENT

12/15-12/29

**State of Tennessee
Benton County
Probate Division
NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
As Required by
TCA 30-2-306
Case No. 4690

Estate of ROSEMARY S. ESWINE, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that on the 9th day of December, 2022, letters testamentary (or of administration as the case may be) in respect of the estate of Rosemary S. Eswine, who died December 4, 2022, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of Benton 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 (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 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 the 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.

Vernon Wayne Eswine and Donald Brent Eswine Co-Executors
12/08/2022
John W. Whitworth Attorney
12/09/2022
Timothy R. Burrus Clerk and Master
12/09/2022

12/22, 29

**State of Tennessee
Benton County
Probate Division
NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
As Required by
TCA 30-2-306
Case No. 4693

Estate of MARK DANIEL WOOD, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that on the 13th day of December, 2022, letters testamentary (or of administration as the case may be) in respect of the estate of Mark Daniel Wood, who died November 29, 2022, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of Benton 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 (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 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 the 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.

Chrystal Pillow Administrator
12/09/2022
John W. Whitworth Attorney
12/09/2022
Timothy R. Burrus Clerk and Master
12/13/2022

12/22, 29

**State of Tennessee
Benton County
Probate Division
NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
As Required by
TCA 30-2-306
Case No. 4695

Estate of KENNETH R. HATLEY, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that on the 15th day of December, 2022, letters testamentary (or of administration as the case may be) in respect of the estate of Kenneth R. Hatley, who died April 30, 2022, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of Benton 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 (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 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 the 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.

Date: 12/15/2022

Joyce H. Sealand Personal Representative
Joyce H. Sealand Attorney
Timothy R. Burrus Clerk and Master

12/22, 29

**State of Tennessee
Benton County
Probate Division
NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
As Required by
TCA 30-2-306
Case No. 4697

Estate of RICHARD EUGENE WHEATLEY, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that on the 20th day of December, 2022, letters testamentary (or of administration as the case may be) in respect of the estate of Richard Eugene Wheatley, who died November 25, 2022, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of Benton 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 (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 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 the 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.

Date: 12/20/2022

Timothy Perry Wheatley Executor
John W. Whitworth Attorney
Timothy R. Burrus Clerk and Master

12/29-01/05

**State of Tennessee
Benton County
Probate Division
NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
As Required by
TCA 30-2-306
Case No. 4698

Estate of BRIAN ODALE STEWART, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that on the 20th day of December, 2022, letters testamentary (or of administration as the case may be) in respect of the estate of Brian Odale Stewart who died September 30, 2022, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of Benton 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 (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 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 the 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.

Peggy Bortz Administrator
12/16/2022
John W. Whitworth Attorney
12/16/2022
Timothy R. Burrus Clerk and Master
12/20/2022

12/29-01/05

NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE

STATE OF TENNESSEE, BENTON COUNTY

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION GATHERED IN CONNECTION HEREWITH WILL BE UTILIZED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

WHEREAS, default has occurred in the performance of the covenants, terms and conditions of a Deed of Trust Note dated January 19, 2016, and the Deed of Trust of even date, securing said Deed of Trust Note recorded on January 29, 2016 in Record Book 272, at Page 142 as Instrument No. 87570, in the Register's office of Benton County, Tennessee, executed by Candy Tomlin, conveying certain property described therein to J. Phillip Jones, as Trustee, for the benefit of First National Bank of America (the "Holder") and to Mickel Law Firm, P.A., having been appointed as Substitute Trustee by instrument of record in the Register's office for Benton County, Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the owner and holder of the Deed of Trust Note has declared the entire indebtedness due and payable and demanded that the hereinafter described real property be advertised and sold in satisfaction of indebtedness and costs of foreclosure in accordance with the terms and provisions of the Deed of Trust Note and Deed of Trust.

NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that an agent of Mickel Law Firm, P.A., as Substitute

Trustee, pursuant to the power, duty and authority vested in and conferred upon said Substitute Trustee, by the Deed of Trust, will on Tuesday, January 31, 2023, at or about 11:00 AM at 1 E Court Square, Benton County Courthouse - Main Entrance, Camden, Tennessee, 38320, or the sale will be held in the place at said venue where foreclosure sales are customarily advertised and/or conducted, offer for sale to the highest bidder for cash, and free from all legal, equitable and statutory rights of redemption, exemptions of homestead, rights by virtue of marriage, and all other exemptions of every kind, all of which have been waived in the Deed of Trust, certain real property located in Benton County, Tennessee, described as follows:

Property located in the County of Benton, Tennessee: Situated in the Thirteenth Civil District of Benton County, Tennessee and more particularly described as follows:

Being Lot No. 65, Section 2, Holladay Resort Subdivision, as shown on plat of Holladay Resort Subdivision, of record in Plat Book 1, Page 180 (now Plat Cabinet A, Slide 587) as surveyed August 1981 by Robert G. Barrett, TRLS No. 898, as appears of record in the Register's Office of Benton County, Tennessee, to which reference is hereby made for a more complete and accurate description.

Subject to the state of facts as contained on the plat of Holladay Resort Subdivision, Section 2, as appears of record in Plat Book 1, Page 180 (now Plat Cabinet A, Slide 587), in the Register's Office of Benton County, Tennessee.

Parcel ID: 132EA02000

More Commonly Known As: 296 Sunset Dr., Holladay, TN

38341.

The sale of the property described above shall be subject to all matters shown on any recorded plat; any and all liens against said property for unpaid property taxes; any restrictive covenants, easements or set-back lines that may be applicable; any prior liens or encumbrances as well as any priority created by a fixture filing; a deed of trust; and any matter than an accurate survey of the premises might disclose; and

All right and equity of redemption, statutory or otherwise, homestead, and dower are expressly waived in 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.

The sale is subject to Occupants(s) rights in possession, if applicable.

If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the purchase price. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Grantor, the Grantee or the Substitute Trustee.

To the best of the Trustee's knowledge, information, and belief, there are no Federal or State tax lien claimants or other claimants upon the subject property which would require notice pursuant to the terms and provision of T.C.A. § 35-5-104, T.C.A. § 67-1-1433 or 26 U.S.C. § 7425.

If a high bidder fails to close a sale, the Substitute Trustee shall have the option of making the sale to the next highest bidder. The sale held pursuant to this Notice may be rescinded at the Substitute Trustee's option at any time.

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Deed of Trust. This property is being sold "as is." Additionally, no representation as to the condition of any structure(s) thereon or the accuracy of the above legal description is being or has been made. Transfer taxes and recording fees are the responsibility of the purchaser.

The following individuals or entities have an interest in the above-described property: Candy

Tomlin, Tenants and/or Occupants of 296 Sunset Dr., Holladay, TN 38341, Spouse of Candy Tomlin, President, Check Into Cash of Tennessee, Inc. d/b/a Check Into Loan.

DATED this 2nd day of December, 2022.

Stephen P. Lowman
TN Bar No. 038269
MICKEL LAW FIRM, P.A.,
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE
1501 NORTH UNIVERSITY,
SUITE 930 LITTLE ROCK
ARKANSAS 72207-5238
PHONE: 888-217-5535
FAX: (501)664-0631
File No. 107576-2

INSERTION DATES:
12/29/2022; 01/05/2023;
01/12/2023

12/29-01/05, 12/2023

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LOCAL

Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE



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GET THE SCOOP

Read today's *Kid Scoop* page and see if you can find the answer to each of these questions.

1. What does Habari Gani mean?

2. How many symbols are there for Kwanzaa?

3. When was Kwanzaa created?

4. The Kwanzaa candleholder is called a

5. The tradition in Kwanzaa is to give gifts that encourage what?

6. What does the word Kwanzaa mean?

Kid Scoop-doku™

Complete the grid by using all the letters in the word **CARING** in each vertical and horizontal row. Each letter should only be used once in each row. Some spaces have been filled in for you.

C	I			
A	G			
R			A	
I				
N			C	
G				N

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: GREETING
The noun **greeting** is a message of friendliness or respect.
Sheana asked, "Habari Gani?" to her friend during Kwanzaa.
Try to use the word **greeting** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family.

Write On!

Holidays at Your House
Which holidays do you celebrate during December?
How do you and your family celebrate?

Habari Gani?

Do you know what that means? **Habari Gani** is how you say **What's the News?** in Swahili. One day you may hear this holiday message as often as you hear Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, or Happy New Year. **Habari Gani?** is the ritual greeting of Kwanzaa.

A Seven Day Celebration

This year, millions of people are expected to celebrate Kwanzaa, a non-religious event honoring African-American culture and community. The holiday is celebrated for seven days, starting on December 26 and ending on January 1.

- Kwanzaa centers around seven principles:
- Umoja (unity)
 - Kujichagulia (self-determination)
 - Ujima (collective work and responsibility)
 - Ujamaa (cooperative economics)
 - Nia (purpose)
 - Kuumba (creativity)
 - Imani (faith)

The holiday was created in 1966 by Maulana Ron Karenga, an African-American scholar. Karenga created this special holiday to honor African-American heritage in a celebration of family and community.

The word **Kwanzaa** means **first fruits** in Swahili, an East African language.

Karamu

On the last day of Kwanzaa, friends and relatives gather for a feast. People come to honor ancestors, review the past year and make plans for the new year. There is lots of good food, dancing and music.



How many differences can you find between these two pictures?



Standards Link: Social Studies: Compare the beliefs, customs, ceremonies, traditions, and social practices of varied cultures.

Symbols of Kwanzaa

Christmas symbols are the wreath, tree, holly, and more. Hanukkah symbols include the menorah, latkes and gelt. Follow each of the seven mazes below to find the meaning of the seven Kwanzaa symbols.

1. MISHUMAA
2. KINARA
3. MKEKA
4. VIBUNZI
5. MAZAO
6. KIKOMBE CHA UMOJA
7. ZAWADI

Standards Link: Physical Education: Eye-hand coordination.

Extra! Extra! Kwanzaa Scavenger Hunt
Look through the newspaper for pictures, articles or phrases that show the seven principles of Kwanzaa.
Standards Link: Language Arts/Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Each night of Kwanzaa, a candle is lit in the kinara. There are seven candles, one for each night. The candles are called the **mishumaa**. It is said that the kinara holds the light of tomorrow.

Do the math. Color each candle that equals 14 **red**. Color each candle that equals 15 **black**, and each candle that equals 16 **green**.



Black is for Africa, the continent African-Americans came from. **Red** is for blood, not shed in vain. **Green** is for hope and knowledge.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

- KWANZAA
- SWAHILI
- AFRICAN
- AMERICAN
- CULTURE
- CANDLE
- KINARA
- ZAWADI
- IMANI
- DANCING
- HABARI
- UJIMAA
- GANI
- MKEKA

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

H	I	E	R	U	T	L	U	C	N
A	M	E	R	I	C	A	N	A	C
B	A	E	I	N	A	G	C	A	G
A	N	L	L	M	E	I	A	R	N
R	I	B	I	R	R	Z	N	A	I
I	A	J	H	F	N	T	D	N	C
I	U	O	A	A	N	T	L	I	N
I	Z	A	W	A	D	I	E	K	A
M	E	K	S	A	K	E	K	M	D

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

Give the World a Gift
If you could give one gift to the world, what would it be? Write a letter to the editor telling about the gift you would give.
Standards Link: Language Arts/Writing Applications: Write formal letters.

If you were in a dark room with a candle, a wood stove, a lantern and just one match, which would you light first?
ANSWER: The match!

Holidays at Your House
Which holidays do you celebrate during December?
How do you and your family celebrate?

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Use your time wisely: READ MORE

FAITH

What to drink during the holidays

The Most Important Book in the World

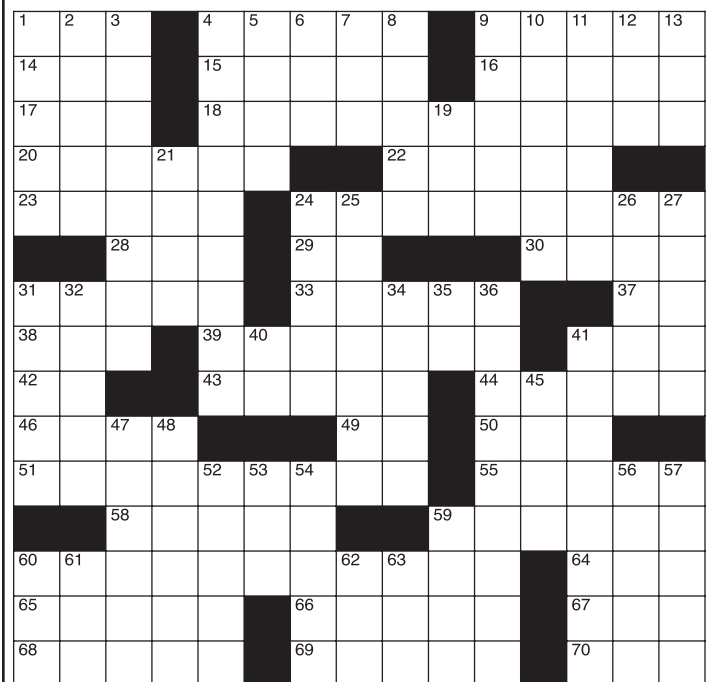
Randy Reed

Jeremiah called for a party for some young men in Jeremiah 35.

If today, it might be a Christmas or New Year's party. He tested the sons of Jonadab to drink intoxicating wine. They answered him and told him that their father had told them to "drink no wine." They refused it, even when the "preacher" said it was okay. I'm afraid many professing Christians have become too sophisticated to think that way now, even though the Bible still says in

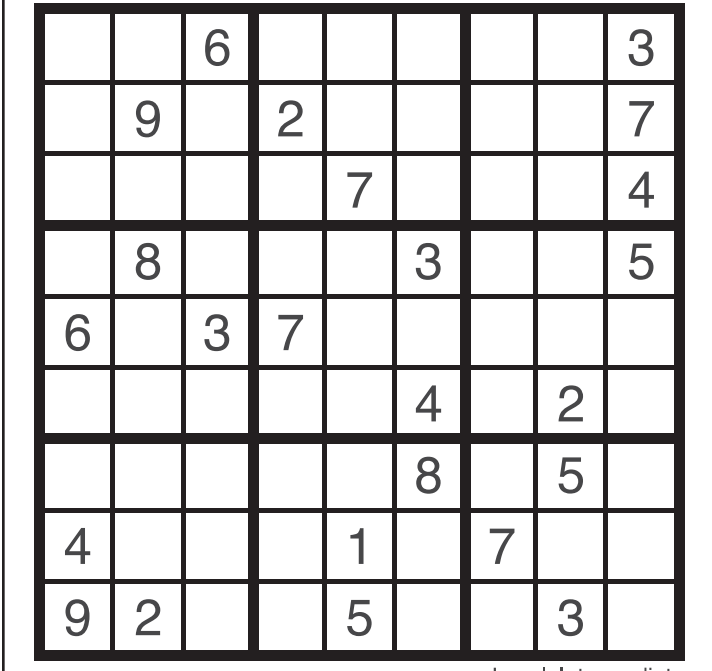
Proverbs 23, "look not on it," that is, don't even look at it! Paul told Christians of the Roman church in Romans 14 that he would not drink wine if it made someone to be offended or stumble! Why don't we instead try what Isaiah said in Isaiah 12:3, "Draw water out of the wells of salvation." Let's look at the grand messages from the manger and use them: virginity, purity, security and greatest of all, the great deity

of Christ who sacrificed the joys of heaven to come to earth to become our sin substitute. God in man! Let's sing and praise with the angels and shepherds, worship with the wise men with all our hearts, and determine this new year to make our lives count for Him. God bless you today as you enjoy the festivity (another manger message) of Christmas and the New Year in Godly fashion.



- CLUES ACROSS**
- Product or ___ (abbr.)
 - Zodiac sign
 - S. China seaport
 - Former OSS
 - Early English printer
 - Aphid genus
 - General's assistant (abbr.)
 - Aussies
 - Dissuades
 - Make law
 - Drench
 - Soak in a liquid
 - Male child
 - It cools your home
 - Small constellation
 - To call (archaic)
 - Explores beneath the Earth
 - Commercial
 - W. hemisphere organization
 - You can find it in a can
 - "Land of the free"
 - 36 inches
 - Footwear
 - Challenges
 - They hold things together
 - Of I
 - Partner to flow
 - Not connected by kinship
 - Worries
 - Garlic mayonnaise
 - A way to take by force
 - Legendary English rockers
 - Your consciousness of your own identity
 - Fencing swords
 - Silly
 - Actor DiCaprio
 - Encircles with a belt
 - Mails a message
 - Longing
- CLUES DOWN**
- Horse mackerels
 - It can be viral
 - Prickly plants
 - Consciousness
 - Type of sarcoma
 - Tax collector
 - Sun up in New York
 - One who scorches
 - Influential psychotherapist
 - Situated at an apex
 - Communicative
 - Forearm nerve
 - Former CIA
 - Folk singer DiFranco
 - Employee stock ownership plan
 - Large-scale
 - School environment
 - Remove
 - Male parents
 - Large rodent
 - Weighed down
 - Held tightly
 - ___ route: going there
 - Explains again
 - Exclamation of surprise
 - Courteously
 - Lying down
 - Judge
 - Forcefully took
 - Loosely compacted sediment
 - High mountain
 - Portable conical tents
 - Cereal grass
 - Dining utensil
 - Thoughtful
 - Helps you walk
 - Indicates near
 - Midway between northeast and east
 - Local area network

- CLUES ACROSS**
- Product or ___ (abbr.)
 - Zodiac sign
 - S. China seaport
 - Former OSS
 - Early English printer
 - Aphid genus
 - General's assistant (abbr.)
 - Aussies
 - Dissuades
 - Make law
 - Drench
 - Soak in a liquid
 - Male child
 - It cools your home
 - Small constellation
 - To call (archaic)
 - Explores beneath the Earth
 - Commercial
 - W. hemisphere organization
 - You can find it in a can
 - "Land of the free"
 - 36 inches
 - Footwear
 - Challenges
 - They hold things together
 - Of I
 - Partner to flow
 - Not connected by kinship
 - Worries
 - Garlic mayonnaise
 - A way to take by force
 - Legendary English rockers
 - Your consciousness of your own identity
 - Fencing swords
 - Silly
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 - High mountain
 - Portable conical tents
 - Cereal grass
 - Dining utensil
 - Thoughtful
 - Helps you walk
 - Indicates near
 - Midway between northeast and east
 - Local area network



Level: Intermediate

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E	L	Z	6	8	9	9	7	L

Revelation Gardens Weekly Update

Community Impact

- 186 cats and dogs kept out of the shelter
- 106 cats and dogs found forever homes
- 800 pets and pet owners helped through Buddy's Bowl

Current Count - 80

- 20 in sanctuary
- 9 homeless being cared for
- 31 at our Annex
- 20 in our adoption center
- 40 are special needs

Our rescues need your support

- Donate monthly or one-time
- Volunteer
- Adopt
- Shop in our Unique Goods and Cool Cats Shoppe

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Dawn@Revelation-Gardens.org
Revelation-Gardens.org
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PLEASE HELP OUR PETS!

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Bible Study Wednesday 6:30 p.m.
Ladies Bible Study Tuesday 10 a.m.

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What does Christmas mean to you?



Living on Purpose
Billy Holland

I've read articles over the years about how Christmas is a combination of Christian and pagan symbolism along with some folklore traditions and for the most part, this is true. I also realize that most people do not want to hear about such things. Beyond the bah-humbug, I will admit that even though Christmas is not as much fun now as it was when I was a kid or when our children were young, I still enjoy the season. I remember laying under the tree and how I was mesmerized looking up at all the twinkling lights. To me, Christmas has always been a special time and heaven forbid I use the term, "magical" but as a child, my overactive imagination had no problem believing the fables especially after I learned about Saint Nicholas that knows everything and can give every child in the world exactly what they want. Now that we are adults, it seems we still hold onto the memories of Christmas past and even have a little excitement left for Christmas future no matter how old we are.

I was thinking about some of the things I do not enjoy about Christmas like for example, the traffic when trying to shop is a headache and how it seems people are not always in a "Currier and Ives" festive mood. The high level of stress and anxiety to make sure everything is perfect can turn our joyous celebrations into something that resembles a torture chamber. The pressure of making sure the house is decorated just right, the food is delicious, and finding the perfect gifts, takes an exhausting toll on all of us. And let's not forget about the intense commercialism that bombards us with advertising and turns everything into a money-driven frenzy. But, for the sake of all those involved, we will continue our merry traditions until we cannot do it anymore because spending time with our loved ones for the holiday makes us all happy. What is there not to like? The lighted tree, feasting at banquet tables with the richest delicacies of the year, and everyone enjoying themselves are the ingredients

of Christ who sacrificed the joys of heaven to come to earth to become our sin substitute. God in man! Let's sing and praise with the angels and shepherds, worship with the wise men with all our hearts, and determine this new year to make our lives count for Him. God bless you today as you enjoy the festivity (another manger message) of Christmas and the New Year in Godly fashion.

for a wonderful occasion. Let us not forget seeing the excited faces of the little ones as they unwrap their presents. We remember the carol that reminds us, "It's the most wonderful time of the year."

Still, in the back of my mind, I keep thinking about the spiritual parts and pieces of a supposedly Christian holiday. After all, I was also taught this was when Jesus was born. The concept of syncretism is the perfect opportunity to blend all types of ancient traditions and rituals with our sacred faith. We have a nativity with Jesus as the Savior for those who believe and Santa Claus with his magical powers for those who believe. I understand for those who are not Christians, this is no big deal because a party is a party, but the Bible says that the more we learn the more we are accountable for. Besides, everyone is going to do whatever they want. We all strain at a gnat and swallow a camel every now and then, right? Then if we pull the plug on Christmas, we can become so legalistic and narrow-minded that we offend everyone and end up living alone. I cannot see how this helps anything. Is trying to find a reasonable balance just another word for compromise?

I wonder how many would celebrate Christmas if it was only about Jesus coming to save us. What if there were no Christmas trees or the magical man dressed in red with a white beard? What if Mr. Kringle was without supernatural powers like being omnipresent and the ability to shape-shift and visit every home in the world in one night? Without the sparkling lights, Frosty the snowman, candy canes, the ham and pecan pie, the music carols, Rudolph, and a large pile of wrapped gifts, Christmas day would probably pass by quietly like Groundhog Day. Advent is a time of reflection and gratitude about Christ coming to save us from our sins. He seems helpless as a baby in a manger, but one day every person will acknowledge Him as Lord and give an account of how they lived. Somewhere between the wise men, the winter solstice traditions, and flying reindeer, may we find our reason for the season.

Dr. Holland is a Christian author, outreach minister, and community chaplain. To read more about the Christian life visit billyhollandministries.com.

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From the Apothecary

New Year - New Me??

Well the New Year is here – I have learned that as we get older the quicker these years go by. Once again it is time for all of us to reset our internal clocks and focus on what we want to accomplish this new year. Invariably most of us will fail miserably at meeting our goals or expectations for the year. So many things are out of our control (economy, pandemic, weather disasters, unexpected sickness, family and career changes), so why do we set our goals and our expectations on things that we can't control and instead try this year to focus on things that we can control?

As I write this article and prepare for the upcoming year - my focus will be on how we can learn to write a prescription for ourselves to control those things that we are in our grasp.

What are some of those things that we can focus on? First and foremost is our own health – we can learn to live the healthiest lifestyle that we can and use as many preventative measures as possible and that is what I will primarily focus on. Second, we can focus on identifying those factors and circumstances around us that are helping or hurting us and then work towards changing those factors to make us better people and a better society. We can also evaluate our attitude and then look at what changes our attitude and what, if anything, we can do about it.

So what are some "resolutions" we can set for better health?

Well we know the drill - this is what I want to do"

- Lose weight

- Hit the Gym
- Fit in all those clothes I received from Santa
- Reduce my stress load

None of these are bad resolutions - in fact we all need to probably incorporate these into our new year plans. But the bigger question is why do we fail at these and why will we be having this same discussion next year at this time?

Well the answer is in our perspective. What will our prescription be for the new year to achieve a better me? It will start with our perspective. The grand canyon wasn't created overnight, our bodies didn't form this way overnight. It took years of a tricking waterway known as the Colorado River and it took years of eating a certain way or living a certain lifestyle that put us where we are now so

to think that it will change overnight or in a few weeks is a little lofty and we need to focus on our perspective. So as we enter into the new year let's spend the month of January listing out our goals, finding areas in our health / life that maybe are not the best. Next to the goals identify which ones we have control over and which ones are out of control.

This will give us a better perspective as we develop this health plan for the year. We will tackle the big one on everybody's list in January – that dreaded weight loss dilemma. What are things we can do? What are some new treatments? What should our expectations be?

Happy new year everyone – looking forward to serving you in 2023!!!

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Flu Season Came Early, Hit Hard in Tennessee

Flu season came a month early this year in Tennessee and hit hard, disproportionately affecting children, according to Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) data gathered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Tennessee Department of Health and Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC).

Nearly 30% of 4,633 people tested for influenza at participating clinics (including 12 VUMC walk-in clinics) from Nov. 4-18 were positive for the virus, and the virus was readily transmitted to others in the household, especially children.

In all, 37% of children between ages 5-17 who were tested for the flu were confirmed to have the virus. Investigators also found the rate of hospitalization in children was higher than prior influenza seasons.

"We wanted to get an idea of what flu activity was like in Tennessee, and we found that it was spreading very early," said CDC EIS officer Christine Thomas, DO, MPH, who works with the Tennessee Department of Health.

"A lot of people were getting sick from influenza and were

being seen at clinics. A good number of them, around 40%, were also getting treated for influenza with antiviral medications like oseltamivir. Unfortunately, when we asked them about people at home, about one in three people were also ill around the same time," she said.

Thomas said the group of people most susceptible to get the flu early in the season were children, especially children between ages 5 and 18.

EIS officers are the CDC's "boots-on-the ground" disease detectives who protect the public from health threats. The CDC sent two EIS officers to Nashville in November to work with the state and VUMC to take an early look at influenza.

"We saw a lot of flu. It happened very quickly. We saw two kinds of influenza A that have been circulating at high levels at the same time. We also saw transmission in families," said VUMC investigator Helen "Keipp" Talbot, MD, MPH, associate professor of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases.

"We have some surveillance systems already in place, so we were able to redirect them to help get the data that the CDC

needed. We were able to pivot very quickly with the help of the state and do this in a matter of weeks where this would typically take months to do," she said.

Thomas said the investigators developed a survey-based project to gather additional information from patients.

"We sent text messages to thousands of patients who had been tested for flu, asking if they would be interested in doing a survey with questions like: How are you feeling? When did you get sick? Did you get vaccinated? Did you get antivirals?" Thomas said.

"If they had tested positive for flu, we asked to contact them in a week or so to see how other people in their household were doing," she added. "When other people in the household are getting ill, we can compare that to other years to see what susceptibility looks like for flu this season."

Most people getting sick had fevers or coughs. Some people had runny nose, body aches and sore throat, according to Thomas.

"It helps the rest of the country to know that, in Tennessee, we are seeing an earlier season

Holiday Relapse

The holiday season can be very stressful; whether it is trying to find the perfect gifts, family drama, or financial stress, there is a good chance everyone will at least have one moment of stress during the holidays. Unfortunately, this stress also affects those struggling with drugs and alcohol.

According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, relapse rates year-round are between 40 to 60 %. From what we have seen at Narconon New Life Retreat, many of these relapses occur during the holiday season. Although the reasons for the relapse may vary between the temptation of alcohol at Christmas Parties or money from gifts they received, we regularly hear many stories of relapse from the holidays.

In addition to this, many families discover for the first time, their loved one is struggling with substance abuse. The holidays are often the primary time of the year that families see each other. If you are concerned your family member may be using drugs or drinking excessively, you should learn the signs of drug and alcohol abuse. Being able to spot the characteristics could make the difference between your loved one getting treatment or ending in tragedy.

If you find yourself in either of these situations, do not wait

but start working on getting your loved one into treatment as soon as possible. Narconon Louisiana offers free assessments and referrals. Call us today to speak with a treatment specialist that can help you take the necessary steps to help your loved one.

To read more on the subject, visit:

<https://www.narcononnewliferecreat.org/drug-rehab-info/give-your-loved-one-the-gift-of-sobriety-this-holiday-season.html>

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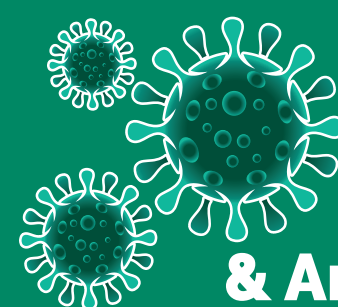
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