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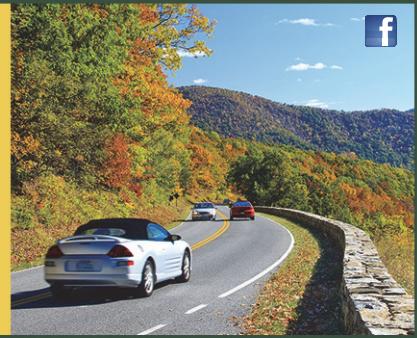
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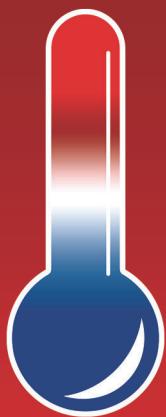
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I Had No Idea!

When I write the Editor's Notes for PARIS! in Autumn, I always breathe a sigh of relief. The heat of summer is about to be replaced by crisp, cool days, football, and trick-or-treating.

Amidst all of the fun, PARIS! offers an issue filled with remarkable stories. If you're like me, you'll read them and say, "I had no idea!" For example, until reading Reminiscence, by Dr. Todd Hill, I had no idea that a Paris-born musician had such close ties with the great Louis Armstrong. I was stunned to read about the gorgeous waterfall described in "A Couple of Travelers."

On The Cover

Addy Kate Parker captured this photo of her sister, Savannah, after a fun-filled day at a local pumpkin patch last fall. For a list of places you can visit, see the article on page 34.

And I certainly didn't know that local attorney, Lee Greer was a participant in the Moderna vaccine trial at Vanderbilt. Finally, who knew that Monty Belew's new dog, Morton, could type?

This issue also has a definite Halloween vibe, which I love. Dr. Gene Gulish composed a dark, woodsy feature with a twist worthy of an O'Henry short story. And while Mary Ann Claxton's feature, "Cedars and Periwinkle," celebrates dedicated individuals locating forgotten Henry County cemeteries, it also offers a bit of the macabre.

Still, there is plenty of fun to go around this fall. The city/county bicentennial is on the horizon and there's a new marriage in town, Arts 'Round the Square (ARTS) and the Ice Cream Social / Classic Car Show the last Saturday in September.

Don't miss our Garden Guru's answers to life's persistent gardening questions, where to head for fall fun at our local pumpkin patches or the "Spotlight" article on Dr. Chuck Lyons, who is retiring after almost four decades at Mineral Wells Animal Clinic. Finally, this issue's recipes will get you ready for this season of friends, fellowship and nights by the fire.

To me this issue seems welcoming and is as colorful as the leaves on a Henry County road in late October.

Enjoy!

Samantha



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Henry County and the Lake Area

PARIS!

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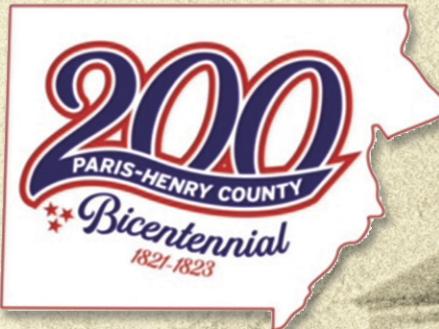
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OUR TWO-YEAR CELEBRATION

BY SHANNON MCFARLIN

Are you ready for a two-year birthday party? That's what Henry County and the city of Paris are preparing for, starting in November, with both ready to celebrate their Bicentennials.

Henry County was founded in 1821 and Paris was incorporated in 1823, so the Paris-Henry County Bicentennial Committee is planning two years of activities to celebrate their 200th birthdays.

The list of events being planned by the Bicentennial Committee is long and will be getting even longer when more activities are added as the celebration expands to the local communities and festivities such as the Henry County Fair and World's Biggest Fish Fry. The committee was developed in 2020, but regular meetings were curtailed during the COVID pandemic. Chairman Carl Holder and committee members were able to resume meeting over the past few months.

A pre-celebration will be held in September with a "Mingling in the Murals" fundraiser organized by the

Paris-Henry County Heritage Center that will be held in the west alley of the Downtown Paris court square. But the official kick-off will occur with on November 7, 2021 with a "Founding Celebration" event which will include a downtown tree planting, speeches by County Mayor John Penn Ridgeway, County Historian David Webb and other officials, an old-fashioned hymns sung on the four corners of the court square, and more. Letters will be sent out to the 126 churches in Henry County, requesting that they include reflections on the Bicentennials in their services.

Events for both the Henry County and Paris Bicentennials will be interspersed throughout the next two years and will include a Traditional Spirituals program set for Black History Month of February 2022, to be coordinated by Rev. Andre Richardson of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, a Ghost Tour of Paris City Cemetery in October of 2022 which will utilize high school students portraying prominent persons buried at the city's first cemetery, and Lunch

& Learn events at the Heritage Center which will spotlight the smaller towns in Henry County and more.

Local churches also are celebrating milestones – including Palestine United Methodist Church which is observing its 200th year and Holy Cross Catholic Church in Paris is observing its 100th year. Those will both be incorporated into Bicentennial activities.

Merchandise, including t-shirts and caps, will be sold at local stores and at Bicentennial events and will feature the logo designed by Kasey Muench, committee member and Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce's Community Relations Director. Christmas ornaments featuring the logo will also be for sale.

A new Henry County, Tennessee, Family History Book will contain material from 1821 through 2023 with approximately 200 to 300 pages. Submissions from the public are being accepted now. Additionally, a Bicentennial website is in the works.

Henry County Archivist Stephanie Tayloe has been compiling "The 200

Most Influential People and Organizations," including biographies, articles, and photos. Some will be shared over the next two years in PARIS! Magazine and the local newspaper.

Carl Holder and committee members David Webb and Paris Vice Mayor Jackie Jones will be making presentations at Paris Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions and other local organizations over the coming months. The W.G. Rhea Library will be featuring Bicentennial displays at the library over the next two years.

The smaller towns of Cottage Grove, Henry and Puryear will be incorporated into the Bicentennial activities, and they are being encouraged to promote Bicentennial themes into the towns' activities such as Cottage Grove Freedom Festival and Henry Pioneer Day.

Likewise, the Henry County Fair, the World's Biggest Fish Fry, activities by the Paris-Henry County Arts Council, and the Paris Academy for the Arts are also being encouraged to promote the Bicentennial theme at their upcoming events.



Members of the Henry County Bicentennial Committee review plans for upcoming events and activities. From left, Chairman Carl Holder with Kathy Collins, Kayla Nation, Stephanie Tayloe and Jackie Jones.

Holder emphasized that activities and events are still being added to the list and anyone with ideas or suggestions may contact the committee. Holder's email address is cgholder@charter.net.

Additional committee members are: Marsha Banasiewicz, retired Downtown Paris Association Pres-

ident Kathy Ray, Krider Performing Arts Center Director Rhonda Stanton, PSSD Band Director Lucy Presson, Paris-Henry County Heritage Center Director Suzy Herron, *The Paris Post-Intelligencer* General Manager Daniel Williams, and Shannon McFarlin, RadioNWTN News Director and PARIS! Magazine writer.

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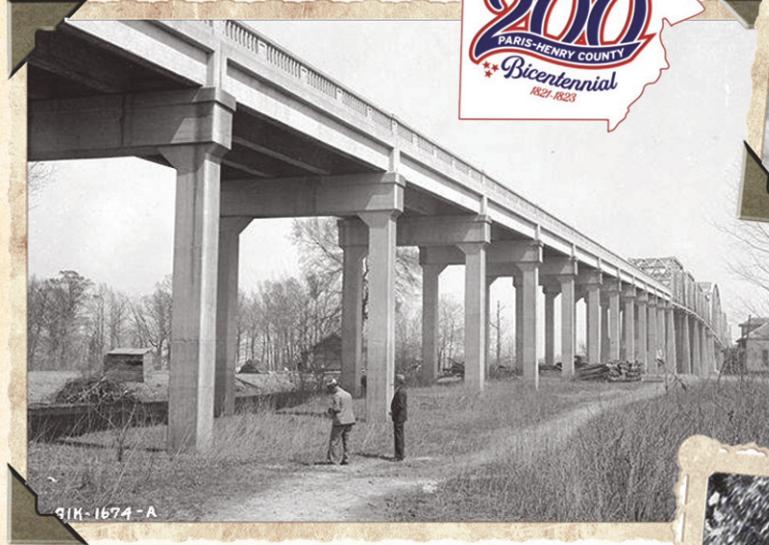
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REMEMBER WHEN



The Salant & Salant shirt factory was a fixture in Paris and Henry County for decades and employed hundreds and hundreds of people. Kneeling in front is Minnie Bess Williams, who was a supervisor at a time when women did not hold such positions. She worked there for 44 years, 1936 to 1980, working there until the factory closed. She passed away in June.

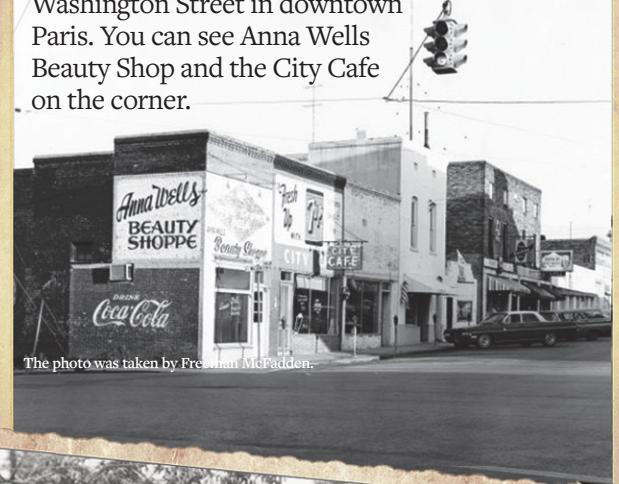


The Scott Fitzhugh Bridge spanning the Tennessee River at Paris Landing after completion in 1930, before the land was flooded to create Kentucky Lake. You can still see houses where there now is water in the photo. The bridge was constructed between 1928 and 1930 and connected Stewart and Henry Counties. It originally was a toll bridge, costing 50 cents. It remained a toll bridge until 1939.

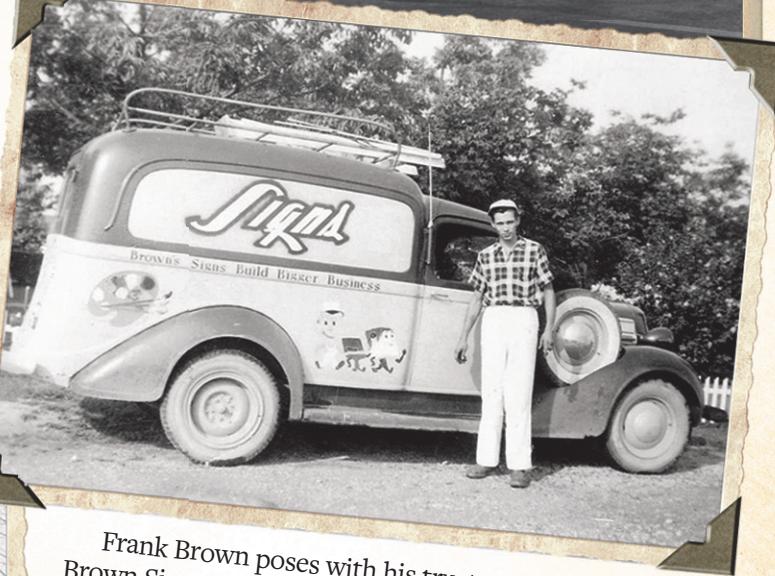
Right:

JP Lasater with his Electro Cola delivery truck. Lasater developed a soda called Electro Cola and manufactured it in his garage on North Poplar St. in Paris.

Way back when, the corner of Brewer and Washington Street in downtown Paris. You can see Anna Wells Beauty Shop and the City Cafe on the corner.



The photo was taken by Freeman McPadden.



Frank Brown poses with his trusty work truck for Brown Signs, the business he founded and ran for many years in Paris. Frank Brown painted signs all over Paris and Henry County – by hand. His sons, Mark and Craig, continue the work of Brown Signs today.





Left: Interior of Russell Pharmacy in downtown Paris, 1920s. From left are James Puckett, William Upchurch, Edd C. Russell, Caldwell Wilson and Edith W. Russell. Edd owned the pharmacy; Edith was his wife. Daughter Carolyn Russell (McCutcheon) is in baby carriage.



First Paris Fire Engine, 1927, parked in the original Paris Fire Department on the south side of the court square. The Paris City Hall and Fire Department were situated in one building on the square. From left, John Hagen, J. Milton Brown and Clark Ray.

Right: Faculty at Training School's last year, 1957-1959. Front row, Mrs. L.B. Olive, Mrs. B.C. Hill, Principal J.H. Harden, Mrs. V.C. Buckley, Miss D.L. Hudson, Mrs. E.D. Harden. Back row, Mrs. Mary Gardner, Mrs. O.T. Wilson, Mrs. E.T. Travis, Mrs. P.T. Porter, R.E. Atkinson and Mrs. P.M. Daniel.

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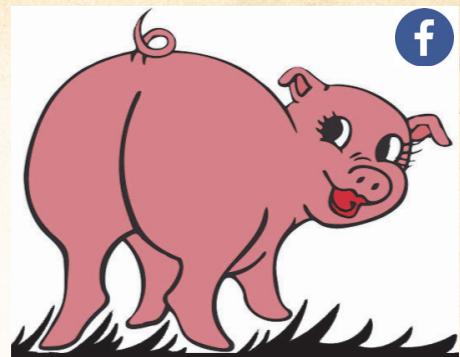
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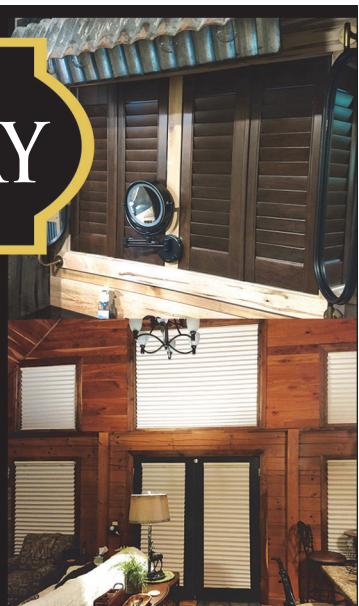
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The Armstrong Band at Suburban Gardens in New Orleans, 1931. "Big Mike" McKendrick with his guitar is behind Louis Armstrong at the microphone.

REMINISCENCE



REUBEN "BIG MIKE" MCKENDRICK

The Paris Connection To Louis Armstrong

BY DR. TODD E. HILL

PROFESSOR OF MUSIC – MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

Depending on which source you believe, there are between 16 to 23 places named "Paris" in the United States. A family with roots in OUR Paris, the McKendricks, have given jazz authors and historians headaches for generations. Although they left for Paducah, Kentucky, at the beginning of the 20th Century, one of those young men, Reuben McKendrick, went on to considerable fame and success in the band of Louis Armstrong, the greatest single force in American popular music.

Gilbert Michael McKendrick, Sr., a violinist and trombonist, fathered five sons who became professional musicians: Reuben Michael "Big Mike" (banjo, guitar, and vocals), Gilbert Michael Jr. "Little Mike" (banjo, guitar, and vocals), Robert Michael (trombone), Daniel Michael (violin), and James Michael (piano). They all moved to Chicago during the great migration to provide music in the burgeoning nightlife, and all performed

under the name "Mike McKendrick," hence the confusion. Both "Big Mike" (1901) and "Little Mike" (1903) were born in Paris.

Gilbert, Jr., or "Little Mike" made a name in Chicago, performing with Doc Cook's Dreamland Orchestra, and touring Europe with virtuoso Eddie South, "the Dark Angel of the Violin." Little Mike was also the musician who got into a duel with saxophonist Sidney Bechet (in Paris, France) over whether Bechet had played a note that was "off the chord." He and Bechet were both incarcerated for a brief time. After his release, "Little Mike" led his own International Band across France and Spain. He died in Chicago in 1961.

Rueben or "Big Mike" performed throughout the 1920s in Chicago with Bernie Young's Creole Jazz Band, Edgar Hayes' Eight Black Pirates, and the orchestras of Tiny Parham and Dave Peyton. Although based in Chicago, all of these groups had national reputations due to recordings and broadcasts.

The biggest break came for Big Mike when trumpeter Zilner Randolph organized a backing group for Louis Armstrong in 1931. This group of three reeds, three brass, and four rhythm would accompany Louis' trumpeting and singing on some of his classic early big band recordings, in several films, countless dances or theatrical appearances, and radio broadcasts.

For all of his greatness as a vocalist and instrumentalist, Louis Armstrong didn't want to deal with the day-to-day issues of leading a band. He left the musical direction to Randolph, the business to his agent of the time, and the band's logistics to Big Mike. Having an impressive physique, McKendrick was an able "straw boss" for the band – directing set-ups, enforcing discipline on the bandstand, and serving as a protector at times for Armstrong.

It's difficult to imagine Big Mike McKendrick joining Armstrong at a more auspicious time in Louis' career. Fresh off a smashing success in the



Above: "Big Mike" McKendrick with his banjo in a publicity photograph.

Right: McKendrik on the tenor guitar appeared in "Rhapsody in Black and Blue," a short subject film, with Louie Armstrong.



Hot Chocolates Jazz Revue in Harlem, Armstrong had successfully united the language of jazz and popular music in a way no one had done. From Harlem's Connie's Inn, he went to Frank Sebastian's New Cotton Club in Culver City, California. After that engagement, Louis had returned to Chicago in early 1931 to the newly formed Louis Armstrong Orchestra, the group he would refer to for the rest of his life as "my happiest band."

They turned out recordings of what were current pop hits, but that entered the public consciousness as standards: "Star Dust," "I've Got a Right to Sing the Blues," "Lazy River," "That's My Home," "When It's Sleepy Time Down South," "I've Got the World on a String," "I Surrender Dear," and more.

After a run-in with organized crime regarding a contract, Louis and the orchestra went on the road to evade the gangsters for the next two years. Armstrong made a triumphant trip home to New Orleans with his orchestra and was booked playing to packed houses for whites only at The Suburban Gardens, where they would broadcast each evening.

The white announcer for WSMB stepped toward the microphone to begin the broadcast but stepped away declaring, "I just can't bear to announce

this (N-word) on the air." Nonplussed, Louis stepped forward, saying "Good evening...I'm Mr. Armstrong."

In addition to dance, theater, and broadcast work, the band was busy making recordings and appeared in two short subject films: "Rhapsody in Black and Blue," and a Betty Boop cartoon "I'll Be Glad When You're Dead, You Rascal You," a current Armstrong hit. (Both are available on YouTube, with McKendrick clearly visible).

There were dangers touring in the Jim Crow South. In Memphis to change buses, a driver was incensed to see the white manager's wife, Mary Collins, traveling with the all-black band. Although manager Johnny Collins had paid for an upgraded coach so the musicians could sleep, the bus depot refused to provide the vehicle ordered. Slipping away from the bus, Big Mike went to phone Johnny Collins.

As Armstrong stood talking to Mrs. Collins about the situation, the police came and subjected Armstrong to a threatening tirade from an officer. The band was hauled off to jail where they were told "...you ain't gonna come down to Memphis and try to run Memphis - we'll kill all you (expletive)."

McKendrick contacted both Collins and the theater manager, explaining

that they wouldn't make the Little Rock engagement unless they were bailed out, and the money was wired by the next morning.

Following the Little Rock performance, the band returned to Memphis for a series of shows. First up was a broadcast from the Peabody Hotel, where Louis stepped to the microphone and announced "...we want to dedicate this one to the Chief of the Memphis Police" as the band swung into "I'll Be Glad When You're Dead, You Rascal You!"

After performing with Louis Armstrong from 1931 to 1933, McKendrick returned to Chicago and led his own band, playing with Erskine Tate, Zutty Singleton, and Cleo Brown through the 1930s. In the 1940s, he played and recorded as part of the Ali Baba Trio, including a film appearance with female singer and trumpeter Valaida Snow. In later years, he led the house band at Jazz, Ltd in Chicago.

Big Mike died of a respiratory ailment in 1965.

Dr. Hill is the Director of Jazz Studies at Murray State, produces "The Black Cats Jump" for WKMS, serves as Choir Director at Murray First United Methodist Church, and performs throughout the Midwest and Southeast with his own professional bands. He is a native of Paris.



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BY TRAVIS MCLEESE

Being a Tourism Director in a rural area can be challenging. After all, we don't have the country music hall of fame located here, Graceland for people to visit, or Dollywood for the thrill seekers vacation.

Thankfully it didn't take long for me to see the "glass half full" and realize the appeal of Kentucky Lake, the Eiffel Tower, our unique events or our charming downtown.

This summer has been chock full of events and our community has been busting at the seams with guests from all over the country.

TENNESSEE RIVER JAM

Not only did this music-filled weekend welcome the world-renowned Oak Ridge Boys, the Grammy award winning group, Diamond Rio, and West Tennessee favorite Darryl Worley, it

had a significant economic impact on our community. Over 10,000 people attended the 12 concerts throughout the weekend.

State officials estimate that locals spent \$75, out-of-town guests without lodging spent an estimated \$180, and those guests who spent money on lodging spent an estimated \$440. The average participant spent \$231, bringing the estimated economic impact of the four day festival to an astonishing \$2,310,000.

Darryl Worley commented "Paris, Tennessee has become like a second home for me. The people here are incredible. I can't wait to come back!"

CODY NANCE'S PBR

With two sold-out nights at the Henry County Fairgrounds, over 6,500 people experienced the first PBR in Paris. Professional riders from around

the world traveled to the area to compete, and the spectators met them with equal anticipation.

Festivities included fireworks, a live concert, mutton bustin', bull fighting, food trucks and vendors.

PEACE, LOVE AND WATER FUN RUN

For over 20 years, the Water Fun Run on Kentucky Lake has been a primary fundraiser for the Chamber of Commerce and a unique marketing tool for the lake area.

Even with an unfavorable weather forecast, 802 festively dressed participants visited the nine participating marinas with hopes to win the best poker hand. A jack high straight flush was the highest hand of the day, winning one of the three check ins.

THE FUN IS NOT OVER...

Arts 'Round The Square has been

a major event in this community for over a decade and this September staple promises to bring vendors and spectators from all over the region. This year the Paris Henry County Arts Council has teamed with Downtown Paris Association.

In addition to a myriad of arts festivities, the DPA will produce their annual Ice Cream Social and Antique Car and Tractor Show. For a minimal \$10 donation, guests will be able to sample a variety of sweet treats prepared by organizations in the community.

A major addition to the event includes a live performance from a group of members from the Jackson Symphony.

"Arts 'Round The Square will be celebrating its 15th year with the passion

it was founded on – a love for the arts showcased in an event that allows our local artists to highlight their magnificent work and talent," commented Mary Lodge, project chair.

"When I was a year into my position as (Arts Council) executive director, I envisioned it back then as an event that would pull people downtown while helping local artists fill their pocketbooks. That vision, I am proud to say, carries on into the next generation."

For more information on these events or other details about the community contact the Chamber of Commerce at (731) 642-3431.

Travis McLeese is the CEO of the Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce.



Ice cream, cars, and art equals a Saturday full of fun! Arts 'Round The Square, Ice Cream Social, and Antique Car and Tractor Show will be held on September 25 in Downtown Paris.

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CHUCK LYONS

“It All Came Down To Timing”

BY SHANNON MCFARLIN

On July 12, it was time for the ownership of Mineral Wells Animal Clinic to change. Dr. Chuck Lyons, clinic founder, officially stepped aside and a new generation of veterinarians assumed what he envisioned in 1983.

With one knee replacement surgery over and another in the offing, Dr. Lyons knew the time was right. “I had always planned that when I reached retirement age, or sooner, I would bring in someone who would eventually want to buy into the practice. Then I could

mentor them into the position to do that. And it all came down to timing.”

Since he opened the practice, Dr. Lyons made a name for himself and his clinic for decades. Not only was he a familiar face to Henry Countians for his veterinary practice but through his participation in community activities, such as the county fair and its live-stock shows, pet shows, and demolition derby.

Dr. Lyons first opened his practice on Russell Street, but after a short while, he moved it to Mineral Wells Avenue. The practice moved to its

present location at 1116 Volunteer Drive in 1996. Lyons will continue to see his patients but will take on a reduced workload.

From the beginning he always believed in treating both farm animals and household pets. The clinic features a large barn, corral, and large animal treatment facilities at the Volunteer Drive site, and the staff regularly makes farm calls.

“That’s been going on since the very beginning,” Lyons said.

Lyons recalled that he employed his first doctor in 1987, and by 1994, he hired his third doctor. “I tried building (the practice) big enough to last,” Dr. Lyons said, “and I think I accomplished that. It’s gotten us to where we are now.”

FAMILIAR FACES

Two familiar faces, Dr. Chad Edwards and Dr. Tyler Davis, are now owners of the practice and both emphasized that the philosophy of the clinic will remain the same.

Dr. Edwards bought half of the practice as a partner to Dr. Lyons in 2008, and both he and his wife, Dr. Samantha Edwards, have forged a strong following among animal patients and their owners while at the clinic.

Edwards met his wife at veterinary school, and the couple worked in Pennsylvania for a time before moving back to this area. At first, Chad worked in Dover while Samantha started her practice at Mineral Wells Animal Clinic before he joined her.

The key, Dr. Edwards said, is that the staff at Mineral Wells Animal Clinic treat the animals “like they’re our own and we always will. That philosophy won’t change.”

Dr. Davis, a 2017 University of Tennessee graduate, previously worked at the clinic and shares the same animal care philosophy as Dr. Lyons and the Edwards’ couple. When he officially returned to the clinic as an owner, it was like coming home. He already had strong connections developed among patients, owners, and staff. He also has another deep connection to Paris—this is where he met his wife, Katie Beth Glover.

“After we got married, we went to Knoxville for a couple of years, and I

had it in my mind that I wanted ownership of a clinic, if we could find the right situation," Dr. Davis said. "As luck would have it, things led us right back to our Paris family. Like Chuck said before, it all came down to timing."

Dr. Lyons said, "Tyler is a good fit and Chad was a good fit. Everything came together."

In addition to Drs. Edwards and Davis, the clinic also employs Dr. Austin Thompson and Dr. Leslie Poynor.

LEAVING IN GOOD HANDS

For Lyons, passing ownership has been a bittersweet experience. He dedicated his life to the clinic, and

in preparation for his retirement, he wanted to make sure he left the practice in good hands.

"And that's exactly where we are now," he said, "I wanted to leave the practice to people who felt the way I do about the treatment of animals. A lot of veterinary practices are selling out to corporate clinics, but I didn't want to do that. I wanted caring people and wanted them to be the kind of people who are supportive of animals' lives. I didn't want people who were just in it for the money."

With Dr. Edwards and Dr. Davis, he said, "I know I found what I was looking for."



Left to right: Dr. Chad Edwards with pup, Dr. Chuck Lyons, and Dr. Tyler Davis



"Did you say cheese?" Dr. Tyler Davis' dog, Odie, knows how to be the goofball in photos.

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BIG DOG ON CAMPUS!



By Morton Belew

PHOTO CREDIT: UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE - MARTIN

Hi, I'm Morton! And I wanted to share, in my own "woofs," my interesting "tail." It begins with me being the pup of a country music legend to now being part of a very special security team.

I was the pup of Hank Williams, Jr. and I had all kinds of rowdy fun at his home. When I got a bit older, I would go hunting with him. I especially liked to "catch the duck" and I thought I was pretty good at it. But Hank was so busy and didn't have time to work with me to be a great duck catcher. He called his friend, Monte Belew, and asked him if he would train me some more. Monte agreed, and I went home with him.

Once there, I was greeted by a big, black Labrador named Si, and oh, we were best of friends right from the first

sniffs. All through Autumn and Winter, Monte, Si, and me would load up in the Jeep and go play "duck" – *it was great fun!* Si taught me a lot about being a great Labrador retriever, even though much of the ability came natural. That's what Labs do – we like to swim, pick up stuff, and bring it back.

I was supposed to return to Hank's home after my training, but when the time came, the whole Belew gang was sad. They didn't want me to leave, and Monte told Hank that everyone had fallen in love with me — and I loved them, too. Monte and Hank agreed that it was best for all that I became part of the Belew Family – *yay!*

Monte knew I was a "good boy" but he saw something special in me. He said, "Morton, you have a superpower!" I didn't know what that was, but

it sounded great! Monte didn't tell me much more, but he had a plan.

Since he became the new Director of Public Safety at the University of Tennessee-Martin, Monte was coming up with all kinds of ideas for his department. One day he came home from work, told me to "sit", and talked to me about a meeting he had with UTM Chancellor Keith Carver and Vice Chancellor Petra McPhearson. Since Monte had been the Henry County Sheriff, he knew the benefits of a K9 in a police department, and he asked them if I could join the police force. They were all for it!

At first, I didn't like the idea. Tracking down bad guys didn't sound like "duck" fun. I was more of lover than a police dog. But Monte explained, "That's your superpower, Morton —

love! You've never met a stranger. You love everybody, and the campus kids and staff need you."

But before I could become "Officer Morton" I had to do some more training. I had to be a certified "Good Citizen" and pass the AKA (American Kennel Association) test. I thought I'd breeze right through this class since I already knew how to "sit, stay, come." But I had to learn not to chase a squirrel. *What! I'm a hunting dog! Do you know how many squirrels are on the UT campus?* I couldn't get excited at football games – *okay, maybe.* And no jumping on people – *huh, okay, I can do this.* I worked hard and learned because I wanted to be good at my job.

Finally, the day came – I got my therapy support dog vest and my very own badge! I was not only a campus police officer; I was also a member of the Care Team. That team helps students and staff if they were having trouble in their lives and support them through it.

Now, Monte and I cruise the campus and I'm constantly being patted, hugged, and loved on. And belly rubs...*could my job be any better?* People bring me treats... *oh, yay!* But Monte has put me on a diet because I'm eating too many. I'm not telling him that "cookies" sometimes get in my mouth anyway.

My days are so much fun, but I take my job very serious. Sometimes, a student is sad because of a break-up. They just need to cry in my fur and hug me.



Monte and I patrol the UTMartin campus, greeting the students. Could my job be any better?

Or they are homesick and need a dog to sit with them. Students get anxious before a test, and I'm there to wag my tail, letting them know "you've got this." If I'm smiling, everybody smiles, too.

I also go to events on campus, meet-and-greet the new student arrivals and let their families know I will be their college dog. Monte and I go to lots of meetings. We visit the staff. A student has even immortalized me on a campus mural – how cool is that!

Just in time for the fall semester, I have another duty – we have a new trainee, Mo! He is Chancellor Carver's new Lab, and he has reported for duty on the UTM campus with all his cuteness. I've already been showing him around and introducing him to all my friends.

And speaking of friends, like me on Instagram at "utmorton" or "morton in martin" and see what I'm doing at home and on campus.

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DOLLY PARTON'S GENEROUS ENDOWMENT

or
My Time As A Senior Lab Rat

BY LEE GREER



PHOTO CREDIT:
DOLLY PARTON
FACEBOOK PAGE

The Covid-19 Pandemic of 2020 may well be the most important world event since the end of World War II. In a matter of days, the attention of all humanity was riveted on a mystery virus of uncertain origin, terrifying potential, and unfathomable consequences.

The unthinkable became commonplace; the world turned upside down. The stock market plummeted; panic buying ensued. The titans of Wall Street were threatened with ruin while the guy with a U-Haul full of toilet paper became a financial genius. Citizens understandably didn't know what to do or whom to trust. Only the calm clear voices of reason on Facebook and Twitter sustained a populace in need of reassurance. As I said, scary historic times.

In unusual times, people do unusual things and I was no exception. In early Summer 2020, Vanderbilt University Medical Center announced it was selected for the testing of a Covid vaccine being developed by Moderna, a major pharmaceutical company.

Volunteers were needed to be injected. Why not?

I Googled, found a link to click, and emailed to volunteer. I told them I was old but walked a lot, had nothing else to do, could come to Vandy any old time, and really wanted to help. I got an immediate auto reply: "We'll get back to you in a couple of weeks."

Four weeks passed and I had heard nothing. On impulse, I emailed again and sounded needy. I added this: "I really want to be picked. This reminds me of applying to college. I can send you a list of my extracurricular activities from 1967, if desired." *No lie, I said that.*

A couple more weeks passed. Then one night we all got an email saying, "Please reply to confirm your continued willingness to participate." I instantly emailed back saying: "I'm all in! Go team go!" Again, no lie I said it. Kyle, the head guy of the trials, later pointed out to me that they didn't even ask me for the list of extracurricular activities before picking me. I told him that was just as well since Vandy

wasn't all that impressed with them back in 1967.

This was a "blind trial," so half the volunteers got the experimental vaccine and half got a placebo. Every trip to Vandy, they took my vitals, always drew lots of blood, and swabbed my nose. I got my first shot in late August and had no reaction of any type. After my second shot, I had mild flu symptoms for a couple of days. I was told that might be a sign I got the real stuff.

As the worldwide Covid drama unfolded, the number of cases got worse. It became clear no real relief was possible without a vaccine. In December, good news came as both Pfizer and Moderna vaccines were approved for distribution. Volunteers got called back to Vandy to be "unblinded" and to be told if we got the real stuff or not. I got the real stuff! Somehow, I felt like I had won. That makes no sense, but that's how I felt.

Volunteers will be followed for two years after inoculation, and the continuing observation is to measure continued efficacy of the vaccine.



Lee Greer poses with members of the Moderna research staff on the day it was revealed he had received the vaccine during the blind trial.

News reports in late March 2021 said the results after six months were encouraging. I go for a visit in late September this year, and one last time in September 2022. Fingers crossed for me, you, and all humanity.

Developing the Moderna vaccine in record time and under historic pressures was a huge accomplishment. Moderna had some 300 trial sites including Vanderbilt. More importantly, Vanderbilt is a major center of research and developmental work for Moderna on the vaccine itself.

By chance, I discovered a member of the research team on the laboratory side of Moderna hails from Paris, Tennessee! He is Dr. Jim Chappell, son of James, Sr. and Joanne Chappell, and he is a Research Associate Professor at Vanderbilt in the Department of Pediatrics, though actually a pathologist by training. All that is impressive, but most important *he is HCHS, one of us.* Wow, GO BIG RED!

Seriously, Dr. Chappell was in early and deep on Moderna vaccine research, especially in the critical Phase I clinical trial. He generously offered his time, and we had a far-ranging discussion. He elaborated on the endless nature of research and the long-term commitment which produces these historic results:

"In my conversations about COVID-19 and the national vaccine effort, I emphasize the decades of steady, methodical studies of coronaviruses and exploration of novel vaccine concepts for this group of

viruses and other potential threats. The coronavirus knowledge base and recent advances in vaccine design were brought together early during the pandemic, which positioned the academic, private, public, and nonprofit sectors to move with unprecedented speed through development, testing, and deployment of amazingly effective COVID-19 vaccines."

Dr. Chappell confirmed what is widely acknowledged by other experts, namely that Operation Warp Speed produced vaccines with historic speed.

Wait a minute you say, what was this about Dolly Parton? Well, Dolly is world class entertainment, and even better she's world class class. Her list of charitable activities is incredible – hospitals, reading programs, big help to her Sevier County after the wild-fires, animal rights, and the My People Foundation. In April 2020, during the crunch time for Moderna vaccine research, Dolly came through with \$1 million. This is part of the combined academic, public and private combined efforts Dr. Chappell referenced.

All I had to offer was a flabby shoulder at minimal risk. On the other hand, Dolly came through at the right time, when the whole world was quite literally at risk. A million dollars to Vanderbilt – that was Dolly Parton's Generous Endowment. Of course it was, obviously. What did you think I was talking about?

Lee Greer's natural wit served him well as a Henry County attorney for over 33 years.



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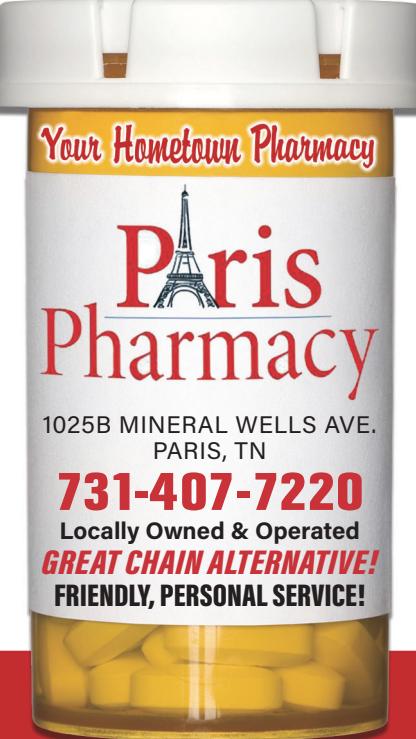




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FACES & PLACES



Leon Ridgeway shows off his gag shirt, a gift from Billy Anderson, owner of Uncle Billy's Downtown Eatery. Isn't this a hoot?



Swimming instructor Jennifer Hill takes a relaxing moment with some of her students. Left to right: Lillian Ryan, Asher Alexander and Anne Elizabeth Ryan. Photo by Amber Ryan



Andy Tanas performed some covers and some of his own originals at The Parlor in Puryear.



Henry County Democrats had a successful food drive at the Atkins Porter's Little Pantry. Donations were divided between The Little Pantry and Mama's Pantry. Left to right: Mary Duffy, Joyce Grace of Mama's Pantry, and Bruce and Dianne Carlisle.



Edith Gardner sings the National Anthem at the 2021 Memorial Day service, as Henry County Veterans' Officer Jon Bolding looks on.

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Paris Police Chief Ricky Watson and his wife Felicia enjoying River Jam's Oak Ridge Boys concert in downtown Paris.



Artist Dan Knowles acknowledges Charles Hopkins at the ribbon-cutting for the newest downtown mural, located behind Commercial Bank & Trust, and features all the good reasons to "Experience Paris", with Mr. Charles being one of them.



Henry County Service Director Michelle Atkins presents a program on mental health at the Paris Rotary Club's June meeting. Also pictured is Tim Boyd.



At the summer bazaar at Paris Academy for the Arts, Amanda and Tim Mason display Amanda's Gingko Pottery pieces.



John "Bo" Schneider of the "Dukes of Hazzard" and his wife Alicia enjoyed the PBR Rodeo in Paris. Schneider produced "Bo's Extravaganza" in Camden and returned to attend the Rodeo. Photo Bobby Melton



Paris Board of Public Utilities has been named the 2020 TVA Energy Right Solutions Communicator of the Year. Receiving the award on behalf of the utility was Meagan Hart, Paris BPU Brand Solutions and Strategic Communications Manager. In photo are CEO Terry Wimberley, Hart, and BPU Vice President Bethany Edwards. BPU photo

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They feel it's OK to litter:

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- where litter has already accumulated

Where does litter come from?

Although motorists and pedestrians are most often to blame for litter, Keep America Beautiful, Inc. identified seven sources that contribute to the problem:

- commercial refuse sources, including dumpsters
- household trash handling
- construction/demolition sites
- uncovered vehicles
- loading docks
- motorists
- pedestrians



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Litter is carried in every direction by wind, water, and traffic.

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Litter is a costly problem. City, county, and state highway departments spend millions of dollars and many hours each year cleaning up litter – money and time that could be used for more needed services.

Cleaner communities also have a better chance of attracting new businesses than those where litter is common.

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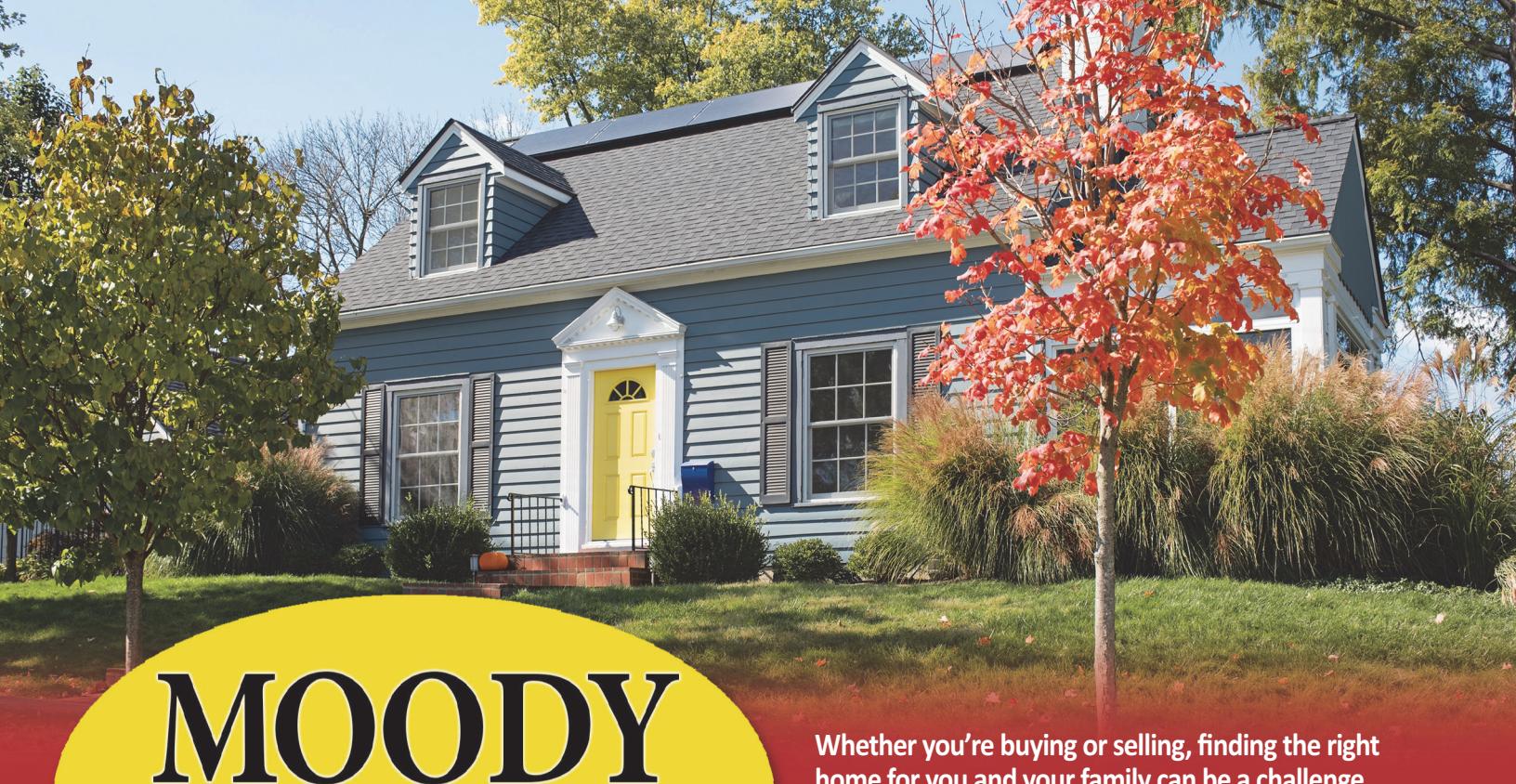
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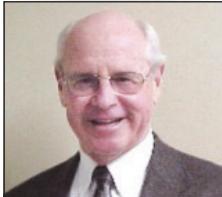
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A HISTORY OF THE LBL LAKES REGION COALITION



The business performance manager at USDA Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area in Kentucky and Tennessee began pulling together stakeholders in the surrounding communities in the early 2000s. He invited chamber of commerce directors, tourism commission directors, regional entities, attractions, marinas, lodging managers, restaurants, anyone who would be interested in finding a way to increase the impact of tourism and economic development in the area.

Over 50 people usually attended the meetings, many with big ideas and plans. The problem was not generating plans, it was achieving consensus. The group could not really decide what priorities a regional tourism alliance, working closely with Land Between the Lakes, should have. The answer turned out to be the biggest idea of all – what could this group do that none of the singular representatives could do alone? The thought took hold and the group decided to chase a share of the tourism pie that no one could really pursue without help, group travel.

People arriving by bus helped everyone. The state park lodges would sell more rooms and drive family and individual travelers to the smaller hotels and motels. Restaurants benefitted, attractions benefitted. The “What?” was settled, then the question became “How?”

Seeking assistance from both the Tennessee and Kentucky Departments of Tourism, the group began studying travel shows, trying to figure out how to sell our region. What attractions were of the most interest? How many days should an itinerary cover? How much should we charge? There were certainly more questions than answers, which led the group to learn all about every participating city and county, to visit, to talk and to familiarize themselves with exactly what there was to sell.

Representatives began attending small shows in the greater Chicago area, a known source of visitors to our area. They booked a group from Kansas and learned everything that can go wrong with 30 people in their 70s on



Kerry Allen selling the Lakes Region at a travel show in Winston-Salem North Carolina.

pontoon boats when a storm pops up on Kentucky Lakes. They also learned that having friends in every port and every place to eat is important and group tours love authenticity and local step on guides.

Over the years they hosted several more tours, learned that people appreciate local stories, photo opportunities and gift shops, especially the ones inside distilleries. They learned to adapt and how to sell a whole region in a six minute appointment at the biggest travel show in the country.

The LBL Lakes Region Coalition has been working on behalf of its members, which now include Benton, Henry, Humphreys and Stewart Counties in Tennessee, and Cadiz/Trigg County and the cities of Calvert, Grand Rivers and Kuttawa in Kentucky for almost 15 years.

Jennifer Wheatley is their director of regional tourism and sustainability, and while Covid hit the tourism industry hard, they still worked virtual travel shows and are ready to sell our area to the group tour industry.

CUMBERLAND MOUNTAIN STATE PARK

History, Hiking And A Waterfall

BY SUSAN JONES AND JOHN NICHOLS

Too often, travelers forget about extraordinary attractions that are just down the road. We hope this series encourages readers to visit some nearby jewels.

The Cumberland Mountains have been calling us for a long time, so when our friends sent a photo of the old, stone Mill House at Cumberland Mountain State Park with a note that read, "Want to go here?" we shot back an immediate, "You bet!"

The park, lush and green, is in Crossville, TN, with recently renovated cabins, a nice campground, and an iconic dam built by the Civilian Conservation Corps, a Depression era work-relief program. We enjoyed the paved trail that looped a quiet, man-made lake where kayaks were available for rent.

Much of the area outside the park was part of the New Deal Homestead Community, an opportunity for 250, impoverished families in Cumberland and surrounding counties to carve out a new life in the 1930s. The men

were taught trades and went to work building barns, homes, a school, water tower and offices using the area's plentiful timber and Crab Orchard stone. This was one of 100 homesteads in the nation and the only one in Tennessee. Its storied structures are still viable and part of the Cumberland Homesteads Historic District.

For a bit of noteworthy history, don't miss the fascinating Homesteads Tower Museum, housed in the program's original office building. Admission also includes an off-site, authentic Homestead house, restored with period furniture, décor, kitchen items and more.

With an eight-story, stone, water tower as its anchor, the museum is easy to find. We walked to the top and enjoyed a panoramic view of the county. Inside, Museum Manager Kelly Cox was happy to share stories and answer

Ozone Falls



questions. As the granddaughter of homesteaders, Kelly has a personal interest in educating the public about the program's history and enthusiastically invited us back for the museum's Apple Festival in September.

One of our travel traditions is to direct our questions to locals, not Google, whenever possible. In this case, we were curious about our afternoon activity, the journey down to Ozone Falls. Kelly's advice was, "Take your time; it's worth the climb."

Fun fact – Ozone Falls was chosen for the cliff scene in the 1994 remake of *The Jungle Book*.

The four of us drove the 21 miles (six miles off I-40 near the Crab Orchard exit), parked in the nearby lot, and made the slow decent through the leafy canopy, choosing our steps carefully. The stream above cascaded 110 feet to a large, aqua-green pool surrounded by an enormous, rock cathedral. Soon, David was perched almost directly under the falls, and I was floating under a warm sun that illuminated the white pillar of water. Surely, we had wandered into a National Geographic photograph. Our emotions ran the gamut from incredulous to grateful.

While the falls would be hard to beat, there are plenty of other activities to enjoy in the Cumberland Mountains. Thanks to our All Trails app, Robin and I had a lively afternoon at Daddy's Creek, a moderate, hike with delightful creek views, rock outcrops, pale pink rhododendron and



An exhibit inside the Homesteads Tower Museum.

lime-green fern.

John and David enjoyed the state park's Bear Trace Golf Course designed by Jack Nicklaus. These links featured enough elevation changes, sand traps, creeks and pine groves to keep things interesting. Our golfers came away satisfied and ready for a good meal.

Dining at local restaurants, not chains, is another one of our travel traditions. Breakfast and lunch were enjoyed on the porch overlooking the arched, Crab Orchard stone dam and creek. But for dinner, we headed out.

Two, adjoining downtown buildings with indoor/outdoor seating created the perfect home for Christy's Pub Grub. Located in Crossville, it brought back memories of the Big Apple Café during its glory days in Puryear. Like the Big Apple, this restaurant reinvent-

ed classic meals and made them even better. Take time to read their entertaining menu, and ask for Jennifer, our funny, laid-back and knowledgeable server who embodied the restaurant's cool vibe to a T.

The next evening, we got to know Morgan, at the Stagecoach Place Café, located just outside the state park. We dined outside at this northern Italian style eatery. The spaghetti al Pomodoro Crudo, the perfectly grilled salmon salad and the house pizza were out of this world. As John said, "You know a pizza is fantastic when you can't decide which is better, the center or the crust."

This was only a quick, two-day, three-night jaunt, but we've already rebooked for next May. That's how much we enjoyed our visit – we hope you'll get to go soon, too.

JOE MAHAN

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ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY CAMPGROUNDS ARE JUST DOWN THE ROAD

Have you caught yourself day-dreaming about the beautiful autumn colors or a perfectly toasted s'more? If so, you may be overdue for a camping trip, but choosing a campground can be daunting.

TVA's list of Tennessee Valley Camp-Right Campgrounds can be one of your best camping resources because owners and managers who volunteer for this initiative share a passion for protecting the environment.

One of the program's primary objectives is to promote environmentally responsible campground management and camping practices on TVA land. This undertaking includes:

Resource Conservation, Site Design and Maintenance, Waste Management and Public Education.

ENERGY CONSERVATION

Just like your home lighting, the best path to energy conservation is to replace incandescent bulbs with fluorescent or LED (light-emitting diode) lighting. Both last longer and are more energy-efficient than the old incandescent bulbs.

"Motion-sensor lighting, light-dependent sensors, and solar lighting also are important to Resource Conservation," said Vicki Jo Valentine, TVA Natural Resources. "And don't forget EPA Energy Star rated appliances

when considering a major purchase."

WATER CONSERVATION

Electricity isn't the only resource that Camp-Right Campgrounds work to conserve. "Only 1% of the world's water is freshwater, which makes it a precious commodity," said RaSharon King of TVA. Some water conservation ideas are tried and true, like rain barrels and cisterns that capture rain runoff from roofs. But sometimes it's less about restricting water, and more about water-saving technology.

Faucet aerators, low-flow shower heads and low-flush toilets are great examples. "These suggestions can apply to homes, too," King said.

LEAVE NO TRACE

Along with conserving energy and water, Resource Conservation includes Leave No Trace practices, which educate outdoor enthusiasts about the impact of their recreational activities on the natural world.

The seven principles address: Planning Ahead and Preparing; Traveling and Camping on Durable Surfaces; Disposing of Waste Properly; Leaving What You Find; Minimizing Campfire Impacts; Respecting Wildlife; Being Considerate of Other Visitors.

At Camp-Right Campgrounds, examples include allowing fires only in fire rings and grills, avoiding non-native plants and animals, leaving natural and cultural features undisturbed during construction, and more.

WILDLIFE ENHANCEMENT

“Supporting Wildlife Enhancement is the final Resource Conservation component, and it’s one of my favorites because it encourages owners and managers to more fully embrace the natural environment,” explains Valentine.

“Encouraging native wildflowers to support pollinators and installing nesting boxes for birds are actions we encourage, but often, it’s simply about leaving things alone,” she says. It may seem counterintuitive, but leaving a dead tree standing is advantageous for cavity-dwelling birds.

There are numerous Camp-Right Campgrounds in Tennessee within a 40-mile radius of Paris: Cane Creek Marina & Campground, Stewart; Nathan Bedford State Park, Eva; Paris Landing State Park Campground, Buchanan; Pebble Isle Campground, New Johnsonville; Wildlife Cove Village & Marina, Camden and Waters Edge Campground in Kentucky. Google TVA Camp-Right Campgrounds for the full list, plus a great program slide show.

“At TVA, we work to balance land use, human activity and conservation to achieve the greatest public benefit,” says TVA Director of Natural Resources Rebecca Hayden. “We applaud the owners and managers who have volunteered to become certified Camp-Right Campgrounds, and encourage campers to visit their campgrounds often.”



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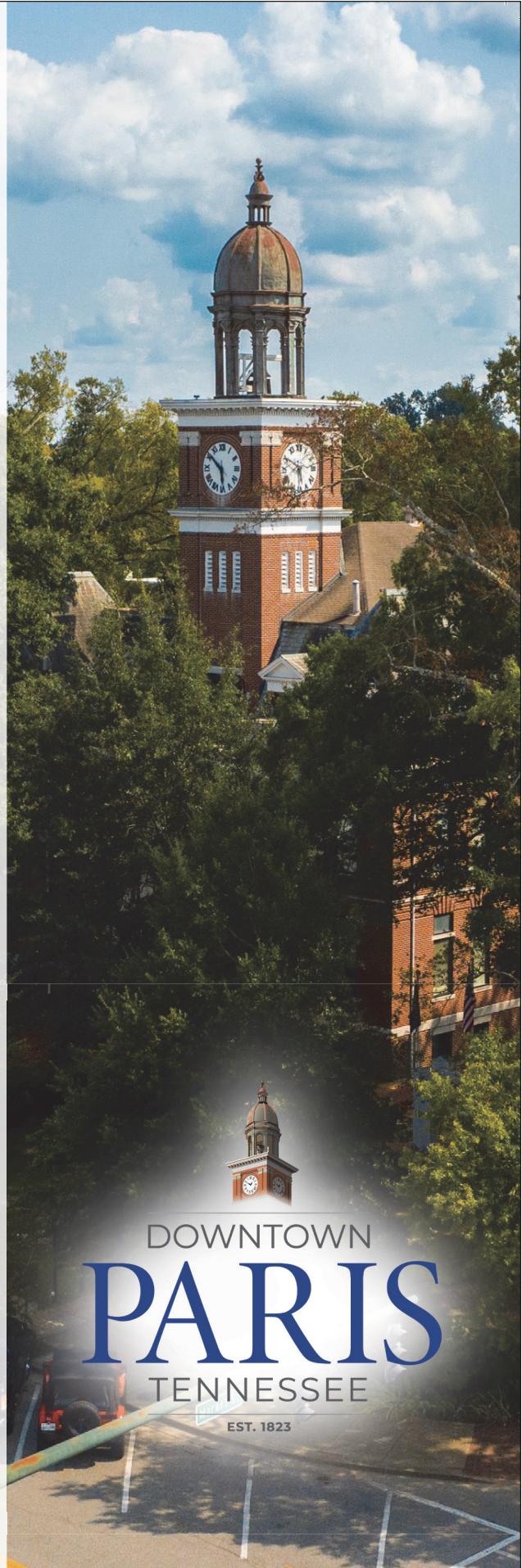
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November 5 - November 7

Festival Of Trees
November 26 - December 18

North Pole Family Fun Day
Friday, November 26

Small Business Saturday
Saturday, November 27

Downtown Christmas Festival
& Holly Jolly Electric
Christmas Parade
Saturday, December 11



JUST FOR FUN



Puzzle solve
on
Page 39

DOWN

1. Savannah Parker is holding this seasonal fruit.
3. Arts 'Round The _____ .
4. Leon Ridgeway puts the "fun" in this.
5. He is shown with his sign painting company truck.
6. Environmentally friendly and just down the road
7. He is the UT Martin therapy dog.
8. Name of falls in Cumberland Mountain State Park
9. If leaves turn yellow, give plant more of this.
10. Type of cheese spread
12. Dr. Davis' dog
14. Type of cola
15. Music performers play at this Puryear business.
19. The Family _____ is located in Henry, TN.
21. One of the new owners of Mineral Wells Animal Clinic

ACROSS

2. Small _____ Saturday, Nov. 27
5. 200 years
7. Vaccine that Lee Greer received in blind trial

ACROSS

11. LBL Lakes Region _____
13. Better save room for this.
16. Purple flower found in old cemeteries
17. "The Autumn Walk" storywriter
18. "Straw Boss" for Louis Armstrong
20. If plant is wilted, give it _____ .
22. She donated \$1 million to vaccine research at Vanderbilt University.
23. West Cancer Center's slogan

The Autumn Walk

BY EUGENE GULISH

Editor's Note: Following Gene Gulish's Judges' Choice award at the conclusion of the Paris-Henry County Arts Council's writing competition, PARIS! Magazine invited him to write a story for this season. Take a walk in his literary woods and share the angels and demons with him.

I crossed the road and entered the green pasture. The grass in early autumn is lush and green and still growing faster than the cows can eat it. The grazing cows look up at me in dull surprise as I pass, and then return to their eating. My destination, the dense forest, lies ahead. I stop at her vortex. This is my place!

The path into the forest is narrow, barely a footpath. The dark interior is simultaneously inviting and forebod-

ing. This is my place! No one walks here but I. I want this path to know only my feet. I want these trees to know only my human presence. I step inside...alone. But I am not alone. My angels and demons are with me. I am still tightly wrapped in the cloaks of my successes and failures, my worries and my joys, my loves and my hates. And the same person does not always enter the forest.

Sometimes a sad, frightened little boy enters, seeking her solitude in peace. Sometimes a swaggering young man enters, buoyant and self-assured, master of his domain, seeking her pleasures. And sometimes an old man enters, perhaps wise, perhaps foolish, perhaps happy, perhaps sad, accepting her for what she is. But the forest is a jealous mistress, and soon all the cloaks are shaken off, and I am naked

with her in this wonderful place. And only her presence matters.

The pungent odors of fall are all around me; the walnut skins, the wild onions, the goldenrods, all harmonize to provide a symphony of smells. The green, yellow and red leaves in the dappled sunlight, add to the richness of the music.

The sounds of the birds and insects, the crackling of the dry leaves beneath my feet, combine to succeed in wiping all other thoughts from my mind. Every step is a new adventure; every step is a new joy. For each time I walk through the forest is like the first time.

I round the bend in the trail and encounter a magnificent buck deer. His head jerks to attention. His burnished antlers are outlined by the autumn sun. His ears are forward, his large eyes widened, nostrils flaring, every

muscle is taut. And for a moment we survey each other. My brain knows that it must work at lightning speed to capture every detail of this encounter, for it will not last.

This creature and I are products of our ancestry. My ancestors have taught him to hate and fear me; his ancestors have taught me to love and admire him. In an instant he is gone and the leaf covered autumn path is as if he had never been there. I walk on. This is truly a holy place.

The path ends and I stand looking into a brightly lit room. I am covered from head to foot with a hood, a mask, gloves, a gown, and boots. Only my eyes are visible. I walk into the room. There is no place for angels or demons; no place for outside joy or worries in this room. They must be left at the door. This too is a holy place.

The room is filled with people attired as am I. But, just as in the forest, I am alone here. No, I am not alone. She lies asleep in front of me, covered in blue drapes and only her naked hip exposed. I step up to the table where I will perform an act of love on a person I might hardly know at all. I open my outstretched palm without a word and

feel the cold handle of a knife slapped into it. From that instant until the act is completed, my whole being is a brain, eyes and hands.

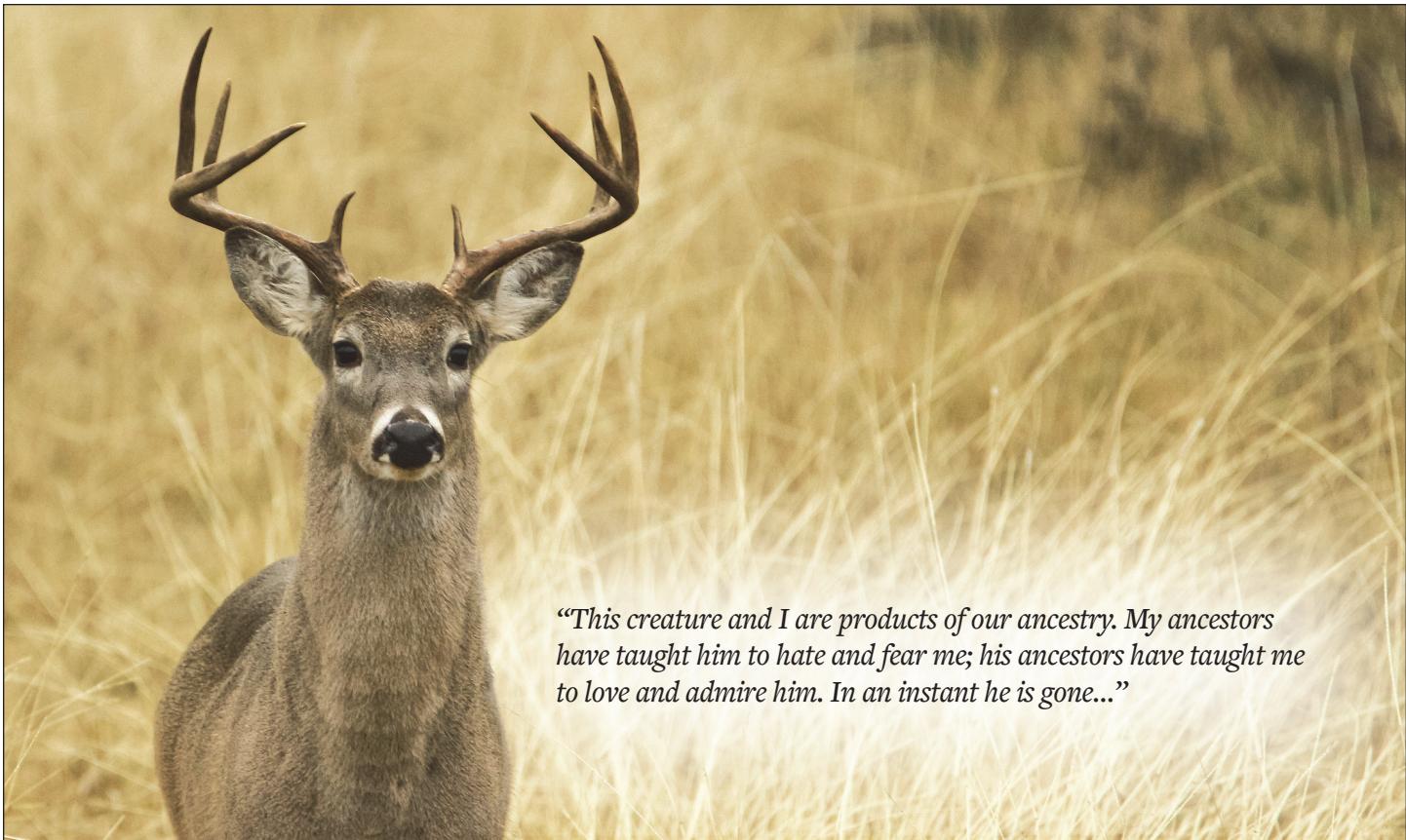
I am unaware of the rest of my body. I am unaware of the temperature in the room or the sounds in the room. All of my energy must be centered on the person who has entrusted herself to my care. I caressed-her hip with the knife blade and make a straight, carefully planned incision in exactly the right place. The red blood spills onto the white skin. I advanced down the path I know well, through muscles and tendons, avoiding nerves and arteries to my destination-the hip joint. But like the forest path, this path is never the same. I must always be aware of anatomic differences. Taking the wrong path here could spell the difference between success and failure.

The worn out natural hip is replaced with shiny metal and strong plastic. It is tested. It moves smoothly. My job is done. I am pleased. I retreat following the same path on which I came; carefully reapproximating the cut muscles and tendons, carefully closing the skin. Only then am I aware of the rest of my body and those

around me. My feet might be tired, my back be aching, my bladder full, my stomach empty. It is also then that I allow my mind to return to my other holy place and let the sites, sounds and smells of the autumn forest surround me in my mind, and soften the reality of this unnatural place.



Along with his expertise as an orthopedic surgeon, Gene Gulish is a talented photographer and author. He is also an active participant in civic and church activities. Left photo: This lovely scene was photographed by Gulish at his family farm in Puryear.



"This creature and I are products of our ancestry. My ancestors have taught him to hate and fear me; his ancestors have taught me to love and admire him. In an instant he is gone..."



CEDAR TREES & PERIWINKLE

Preserving History One Cemetery At A Time

BY MARY ANN CLAXTON

Being a member of the Henry County Cemetery Committee is not for wimps. It means being guided by a dot on a map, driving down a field road that hasn't seen a vehicle in month or years, searching for huge, old cedar trees, and hiking through downed trees, saw-briars, privet, Virginia creeper, and poison ivy.

Once, arriving to the trees, the reward is finding periwinkle, and perhaps some large rocks or tombstones hidden under the purple flowers. Another part of Henry County's forgotten history – a lost cemetery – is preserved for at least for a generation or so.

The committee was formed by former County Mayor Brent Greer to locate all cemeteries in Henry County and to erect signs at those without. The committee is chaired by Stephanie Tayloe, County Archivist, and its members are Tommy and Mary Ann Claxton, Marge Barrows, Susan Pemberton, Susan Stewart, and Wayne Webb.

"We are fortunate that my mother and a group of dedicated researchers

compiled a list of burials in 423 cemeteries in the county in the 1980s," said committee member Tommy Claxton. "The two-volume work, *Inscriptions in Stone*, is indispensable to the work we are doing today. They relied heavily on United States Geological Survey maps and word-of-mouth. But today we have the Internet, digitized plat maps, and software for recording data. Currently, we know 47 cemeteries not in the book. Some they missed, but some were established since 1989."

Of those 468 known cemeteries, however, at least 16 are now considered "lost." How can you possibly lose a cemetery? "Most people think of cemeteries as neat rows of tombstones like in Maplewood or Paris City Cemetery, or the more recent custom of flat, bronze markers like in Roselawn. But of the 423 cemeteries found in 1989, 212 of them have 15 or fewer graves with legible tombstones," said Brown. "An additional 50 have no tombstone-marked graves – only sunken graves or graves identified by dowsing."

Dowsing is not a spiritual mystery. Dowsing rods – two metal coat hangers cut in an L-shape and carried loosely in your hands – respond to disturbed ground. They will find buried water or gas lines, but in a cemetery, the disturbance has a pattern. The rods will cross over a 2 x 6 foot area, then uncross.

Cemeteries are protected by law but, "unfortunately, 'laws were made to be broken' applies to many of these old cemeteries. Vandalism has always been a problem, but often the destruction comes from livestock not fenced out of the cemetery, stones removed to allow easy field planting, or dozers clearing land for construction," said Pemberton.

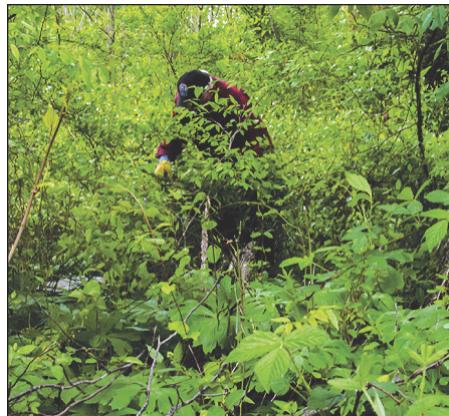
In all fairness, if the cemetery is not on the property deed (about 50% are not), there may be little evidence of the cemetery's existence. But how could you not see a cemetery?

"Burial customs were very different in the 1800s as compared to today," said Tayloe. "There was no embalming so burial had to be done quickly. By necessity, this had to be in an area close

to where the person lived. Sometimes, there was a 'burin' ground' in the neighborhood where several families had loved ones buried. But often that was not available, so the burial was on a high place on the family's property. Over time, as children moved away and property changed hands, knowledge of the cemetery was lost."

"Tombstones?" said Stewart, "They were expensive and only available when the tombstone carver was in the area. So, until the carver came by, a large, local rock marked the head and sometimes foot of the grave. If no one was still there when the carver came again, or if the family did not have the money for a tombstone, the rocks became the only memorials for those buried there."

Committee member Webb relates the story of one cemetery. "There was a man who had 'lived here all my life' and knew of no cemetery on his property, but behind his shop were four rocks in a row, right where the map said there should be a cemetery." Dowsing later showed the presence of four graves.



Henry County Cemetery Committee member Tommy Claxton clears briars and privet bushes from around tombstones so pictures of the stones can be taken. Other stones are hidden in the bushes behind him and to the left foreground in the picture. Many of our small cemeteries are in obvious need of someone's tender loving care.

But what about the cedars and periwinkle? Remember bodies were buried quickly. The periwinkle – a highly toxic plant, but excellent evergreen ground cover and weed deterrent – was planted over the graves to keep dogs and similar scavengers from digging up the grave. And cedars? Planted to mask the



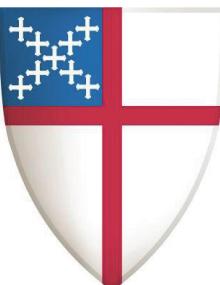
Above: A blue/purple periwinkle bloom found at forgotten cemetery.

Previous page: Tommy Claxton (top left) works to clear the inscription on a tombstone in Providence Cemetery. Periwinkle covers the ground and cedar trees are prominent in the center of the cemetery.

odor of the decaying bodies. So, if you find cedars and a thick carpet of periwinkle while you explore, tread lightly. You may be near a cemetery.

Mary Ann Claxton is a retired teacher who enjoys local history, photography, and square dancing with Tommy, her husband.

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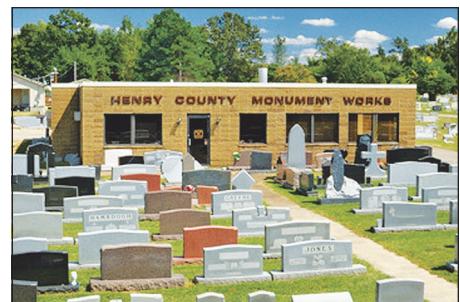


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It's The Great Pumpkin, HENRY COUNTY!

BY JOHN WATKINS

October in Henry County just wouldn't be October without the thought of corn stalks, hay bales and of course, pumpkins! These harbingers of Fall, along with some cooler temperatures and lower humidity, can lead to a myriad of opportunities to get out and explore nature at its finest.

Buying just the right pumpkin ranks right up there with the time-honored tradition of picking out the perfect Christmas tree and the activities asso-

ciated with pumpkin patches around our area make it a great way to spend time with the family.

First of all, I will always make it a point to push "buying local" when it's possible. As October approaches, I'm sure there will be lots of local pumpkins showing up at garden centers and roadside stands. Growing pumpkins isn't the easiest thing in the world as so many variables like weather, insects and disease come into play. Believe

me, I speak from experience here. So pay tribute to those hard-working farmers in the area by buying from them if you can.

Now, besides the fun of picking out the perfect pumpkin, what else can you expect to experience from a trip to a pumpkin patch? Well, below are some of the more prominent pumpkin patches in the area with some of the activities you can expect. As always, you may want to research a little

deeper either on a website or through Facebook to determine hours of operation and cost for each venue before venturing out.

HOLT FAMILY FARMS

Located in Dresden, TN, this venue offers pumpkins to purchase but also has play areas for the kiddos, a hay maze, hayrides, a train ride, and even a petting zoo. And who doesn't love a petting zoo?!

MANN'S PUMPKIN PATCH

Located in Dover, TN, this pumpkin patch allows you to pick your own right out of the field so you can take your time and get just the one you want. They also list hayrides, a corn maze and plenty of kid's areas to run around in.

NANNEY FARMS PUMPKIN PATCH

Located in Sharon, TN, Nanney Farms is definitely one of the largest pumpkin growers in the area.

With over 65 acres of pumpkins growing, – not to mention offering corn stalks, straw bales and lots of other Fall products – you're bound to find all of your festive décor needs satisfied. They also offer hayrides, hay mazes, slides, and a petting zoo.



STRIKE! Pumpkin Bowling at Green Acres Farm Pumpkin Patch.



Pumpkin patches have fun and games for the whole family.

GREEN ACRES FARM

Located in Milan on the Medina Highway, I'm sure we're all familiar with this large venue. When not growing pumpkins for the Fall, they seasonally grow everything from strawberries to wildflowers to sunflowers.

In the Fall, they have over three acres of fun activities like pumpkin characters, straw bale tunnels, sack races, bull roping, slides, and even pumpkin bowling lanes. Now there's a sport I can get behind, just not sure about which shoes to wear!

DISCOVERY PARK OF AMERICA

And finally, I would be remiss if I didn't mention my very own location at Discovery Park of America. Back by popular demand this year is the world famous Pumpkin Village! Free with admission to the park is a 1.5 acre display of pumpkins arranged around a central theme. (Sorry, no spoilers yet about that theme!).

Rest assured, the entire family will enjoy strolling around through the exhibit which will include 6,000-8,000 pumpkins of every size, shape, and color used in ways you might not ordinarily expect to see.

Again, I'm sure I've left out some very noteworthy pumpkin patches, but I will leave some of the work to you to research and find one that will be fun for your whole family!



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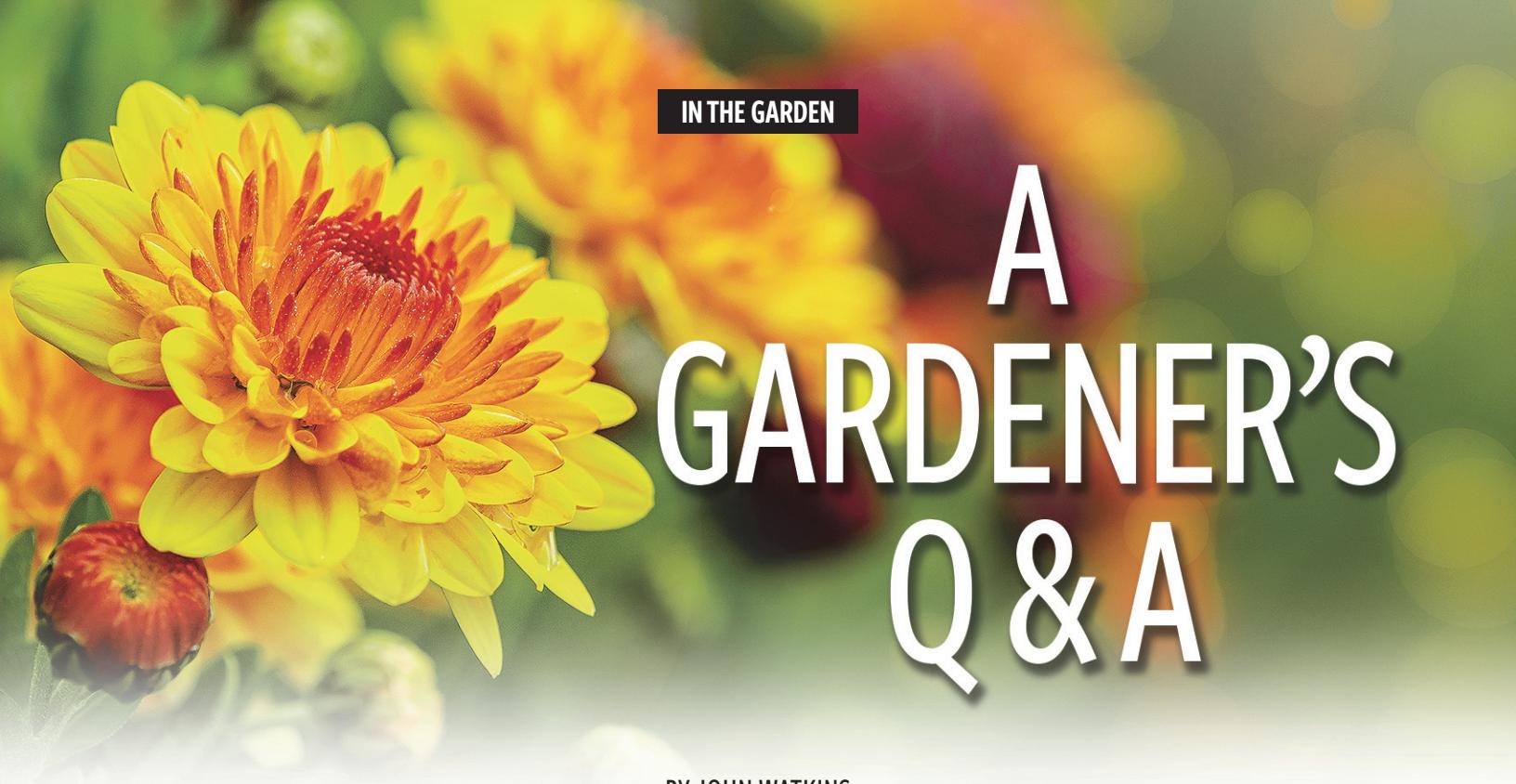


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A GARDENER'S Q & A

BY JOHN WATKINS

Well, here we are again. Summer is over, the kids are back in school, and the garden tasks are finally slowing down a bit. What better time than now to stop and answer some of the most commonly asked questions I get about gardening.

Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just getting that first dirt under your nails, there are always some basics that are just good to remember. So, without further ado, let's jump right in with some gardening FAQ.

Q: How often do I need to water my plants?

A: Out of all the questions I get asked about landscaping and gardening, this one ranks right up there at the top. If you really want to ask me, "When should I water my plants?", the short answer would be, "Whenever they are dry."

While this may sound pretty simple, a lot of people still don't get it. "How do I know they're dry?" or "What kind of sophisticated apparatus do I need to measure soil moisture?" My friends, I'm here to tell you that the answer is literally right at the end of your arm. Not sure if your plant has enough water? Just stick a finger in the soil around the base of the plant.

If it feels at all moist, you're golden. If it feels like powder or is crumbly, give it a good soaking. Repeat as often as needed, simple as that.

Q: Should I fertilize my plants?

A: This one is a little tougher as so many factors can come into play concerning plant nutrition and health. A simple answer like "once a week" or "once a month" just won't suffice.

To start with, every plant has its own individual needs and factors like soil structure, soil type, soil moisture, and the amount of nutrients already in the soil can all influence fertilizer needs. If I had to give the short answer it would be that it's usually hard to go wrong with light applications of a well-balanced complete fertilizer applied a couple of times during the growing season.

If you can remember back a few articles ago, I explained the basics of how to read a fertilizer label. Most complete fertilizers have a three number system (like 10-10-10 or 15-15-15) that represent the percentages of the major nutrients N-P-K (nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium) that are present in the product.

It's also important to remember that each nutrient influences different aspects of plant growth. To make it

really simple, nitrogen affects chlorophyll development and will promote green growth like leaves and stem production while phosphorus and potassium have overlapping roles in the development of roots, flowers, and fruit production.

So if your trees or shrubs look a little stunted or have yellow leaves, you might want to add a little nitrogen. If you want your plants to have more flowers or fruit, you might try applying a fertilizer with a higher percentage of phosphorus or potassium.

Q: What is the best soil type to plant in?

A: Here's another loaded question that depends greatly on the type of plant you are dealing with. Some plants require soils that are extremely well drained or that are rich with organic matter (think salvias or lavender) while others can tolerate or even thrive in heavier, poorly drained soils (think butterfly weed or daylilies). As always, do a little homework before you put that plant in the ground.

On a side note, almost all houseplants or those grown in containers will benefit from a generous amount of actual potting soil with lots of organic matter providing good drainage. So rather than digging up any old dirt out

of the yard (which will most likely have too much clay), you might want to invest in a bag or two of good quality "store-bought" soil.

Q: What's the best way to control weeds in my garden?

A: If only I had a sure-fire way to control all the weeds in the garden, I'd probably be on a beach somewhere sipping one of those fancy drinks with the tiny umbrella in it!

In all my years in the landscape profession, I have yet to come across any foolproof method of controlling weed invasion to some degree. The real question becomes just how many weeds can you tolerate? For areas towards the back of the property, that may be quite a few, because they're just not as visible. For that flower bed leading up to the front steps that is highly visible, that may mean "not in my house!"

There are a few tips however that can keep weeds a more tolerable level. First, there's mulch. Mulch not only regulates soil moisture and temperature but can act as a physical barrier to impede weed seed development.

A second approach might be the application of a pre-emergent herbicide that will actually inhibit seed germination. A word of caution here, however. Almost all pre-emergent chemicals can't tell the difference between a dandelion seed and your precious zinnia seed and will keep either from germinating. So if you are planning on starting all of your plants from seed, you might want to think about another method.

The good news is that applying a pre-emergent herbicide will not affect

existing plants or those that are planted as seedlings or small transplants. Of course, the best and most sure fire way of having a weed-free bed is still the old-fashioned and unenviable task of rolling up those sleeves, bending the knee, and pulling those pesky weeds by hand. (Not what you wanted to hear, I'm sure!)

Q: What size plant should I purchase to put in the ground?

A: Now here's a great question that really has no right or wrong answer. Part has to do with practicality and part has to do with patience.

On the practical side, while it is possible to plant a full-grown shade tree for that instant "wow" effect, the cost of the tree itself, the equipment required to transplant, and the amount of care required (soil prep, irrigating, and timing) usually makes this "im-practical" for most of us. On the other hand, I personally just don't have the patience to start that oak tree from an acorn and wait years or decades before I get enough shade to hang my hammock under. So the answer lies somewhere in between.

For slower growing plants like trees or shrubs, choose a size that you can practically afford, handle and maintain. For those fast growing perennial or annual flowers, small seedlings or transplants with a healthy root system should satisfy even impatient gardeners like myself.

So there you have it. Simple answers from a simple gardener. Now get out there and enjoy your garden!

John Watkins is the grounds director at Discovery Park of America and resides in Henry County.





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Southerners. But if you're from down here, you just know. We aren't afraid to use butter, cream, or mayo to bring a meal together in a heartbeat, and autumn is the perfect time to make some of our favorite comfort

foods for the whole family. From fried country steak & gravy to a southern twist on classic pimento cheese, these comforting fall recipes are sure to leave your crowd full, happy, and feeling cozy throughout the season.

SOUTHERN FRIED COUNTRY STEAK & GRAVY

INGREDIENTS

1 pound steak (I like to use a bottom round steak)
 2 cups all-purpose flour
 1 tablespoon paprika
 1 teaspoon cayenne
 2 cups buttermilk
 Salt and pepper, to taste
 A few cups of oil for frying

FOR GRAVY

4 tablespoons flour
 2 tablespoons butter
 2 tablespoons oil from frying
 2-3 cups milk
 Salt and pepper, to taste

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Slice steaks about $\frac{1}{4}$ " thin and pound out with a tenderizer. Season well with salt and pepper.
2. Add flour to a large bowl and add seasonings. Don't be shy on the seasoning.
3. Add the steak cuts to the buttermilk. Then move them to the flour mixture to make for a nice even coating over the steak. Let steaks sit while you prepare oil.
4. Add oil to a large pan over medium high heat until hot. You just need a small coating of oil in the pan. The oil should come up about halfway on the steaks.
5. Add steak cuts to the oil and cook for about 4 minutes per side. Work in batches and make sure the steaks are cooking evenly and not touching.
6. Remove steaks to a plate lined with a paper towel to drain. Let oil cool off a bit in the pan.
7. Pour off all the oil in the pan except about 2 tablespoons and leave all the browned bits.
8. Add butter to pan and scrape up any stuck bits of steak. Put pan back over low heat.
9. Sprinkle in flour and whisk to make a gravy. Cook for about a minute until it's lightly brown in color.
10. Whisk in milk slowly, adding milk about $\frac{1}{2}$ cup at a time. Keep whisking and any lumps should smooth out. Add milk and cook until thick and smooth. Season heavily with salt and pepper.
11. Serve steaks with lots of the gravy along with sides like potatoes and biscuits.

yum!





SOUTHERN PIMENTO CHEESE

INGREDIENTS

6 ounces shredded sharp cheddar cheese
 1/3 cup mayonaise
 2 tablespoons sour cream
 1 (4 ounce) jar pimento peppers, drained
 1 teaspoon white wine vinegar
 Pinch of salt
 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
 1/8 teaspoon cayenne pepper
 2 teaspoons minced chives

INSTRUCTIONS

Combine the cheddar and remaining ingredients in a bowl and stir to coat. Cover and refrigerate 30 minutes prior to serving. This is great as a dip on chips or crackers. On bread, try changing it up a bit and make it a warm grilled pimento cheese sandwich. You'll be glad you tried it.

*SLOW DOWN AND QUIT EATING SO FAST!
 Do you think you're going to a fire?*

BETTER SAVE ROOM FOR DESSERT!

I BELIEVE I'LL TAKE JUST ONE MORE SPOONFUL OF THAT SQUASH CASSEROLE.

SOUTHERN SQUASH CASSEROLE

INGREDIENTS

2-3 medium size squash
 8 ounces sour cream
 8 ounces finely shredded cheddar cheese
 1 egg
 1 sleeve of crackers (crushed)
 4 ounces of shredded parmesan cheese
 A pinch of salt and pepper

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Slice yellow squash and saute with salt and pepper until tender.
2. Mash with a potato masher and mix with sour cream, cheddar cheese, and egg in a bowl to achieve a creamy consistency.
3. Spread mixture into a baking dish and topped with crushed crackers and parmesan.
4. Bake at 350° F for about 30 minutes until golden and bubbly.



How many times do I have to tell you NOT TO TALK WITH YOUR MOUTH FULL?



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PUZZLE SOLVE

PUZZLE ON PAGE 29

ACROSS

2. BUSINESS
5. BICENTENNIAL
7. MODERNA
11. COALITION
13. DESSERT
16. PERIWINKLE
17. GULISH
18. BIG MIKE
20. WATER
22. DOLLY
23. WE CAN

DOWN

1. PUMPKIN
3. SQUARE
4. FUNERAL
5. BROWN
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GO TEAMS! – Support the PSSD's and Henry County School System's talented sports teams. Call individual schools for up-to-date schedules. Don't forget Saturday mornings are "kicking" with sports too! Paris Soccer at McNeil Park (731-333-9464).

COME PLAY INSIDE – The Paris Civic Center has an indoor pool, track, weights, and fitness machines. Pay by the visit or become a member. Located on Volunteer Drive. Call 731-644-2517.

LEARN ABOUT HEALTH – Henry County Medical Center offers monthly seminars including Chronic Disease Management Screenings, Childbirth Education and many more. All are free but you must pre-register by calling 731-644-3463.

POPCORN ANYONE? – Enjoy a new movie at the Parisian Theatre with nightly shows on six screens and matinees also on Saturday and Sunday. For more information and movie schedules call 731-642-7171.

— AUGUST —

AUGUST 17 – Free blood pressure checks at the Henry County Office on Aging. Join Tina Umstead and she'll discuss individual results with you for free. For more information call 731-644-8215.

AUGUST 20 – Show your BIG RED PRIDE at the first home football game of the season at Henry County High School. HCHS vs. Summit at 7 pm. For more information call 731-642-9733.

AUGUST 20 – The Heritage Center invites you to **Lunch & Learn with the Judge**. This will start at Noon with a presentation during lunch followed by a Q & A during dessert. Suggested donation is \$20 with all proceeds going to help with cost of recent repairs at the Heritage Center. Reservations required. For more information call 731-642-1030.

AUGUST 21 – It's National Honeybee Day! Join Ranger Lowry outside the Pro-Shop at the Paris Landing Golf Course and **learn all about the roles of local honeybees** and take home a fine honey sample from the park's own bees. It's free from 10 am - Noon. For more information call 731-641-4465.

AUGUST 21 – Ready to laugh? Join **"The Funniest Man in America"** James Gregory at the Krider Performing Arts Center at 7:30 pm. Tickets are on sale for \$43-\$48. For more information call 731-644-2517.

— SEPTEMBER —

September 2 – Give Blood and Save a Life! **Lifeline Blood Mobile** will visit First United Methodist Church from Noon until 6 pm. For more information call 1-800-924-6572 extension 310.

SEPTEMBER 3 – It's Noon on the Square, 11:30 am - 1 pm, sponsored by Commercial Bank. Concessions available. So bring a lawn chair and a friend to beautiful downtown Paris. For more information call 731-642-3341.

SEPTEMBER 6 – LABOR DAY! Hats off to our country's workforce. No school for PSSD or Henry County School System.

SEPTEMBER 10 – Enjoy a little music at **Noon on the Square**, 11:30 am - 1 pm sponsored by Commercial Bank. Bring a lawn chair and enjoy this autumn tradition. Call 731-642-3341 for more information.

SEPTEMBER 11 – Join Brian Mabry at KPAC as he performs, **Wild Horses - A Garth Tribute** at 7 pm. Considered one of the best Garth Brooks tribute artists, tickets are just \$27. For more information visit www.gbttribute.com or call 731-644-2517.

September 11 & 12 – Looking for fun this weekend? Head to the Paris Landing State Park for the **Paris Lakeway Kiwanis Club Arts and Crafts Festival** from 10 am - 5 pm each day.

SEPTEMBER 12 – **Grandparent's Day.** Hug your Nanny or Papaw!

SEPTEMBER 17 – **Noon on the Square** from 11:30 am -1 pm, sponsored by Commercial Bank. Bring a lawn chair and a camera. For more information call 731-642-3341.

SEPTEMBER 24 – Come on out one last time for **Noon on the Square** from 11:30 am -1 pm on the courthouse lawn, sponsored by Commercial Bank. Concessions available. For more information call 731-642-3341.

SEPTEMBER 25 – Head to downtown Paris where it's all happening! **The Ice Cream Social + Antique Car & Tractor Show** will be there with plenty of homemade ice cream to cool you down and lots of pretty rides to check out. For more information call 731-642-3431.

SEPTEMBER 25 – **Arts 'Round the Square** is downtown from 9 am- 4 pm. This event will fill the lawn with artists creating and selling their pottery, woodcarvings, jewelry, mixed media, fiber art, photographs, sculptures and canvas art. For more information log on to www.VisitDowntownParis.com.

SEPTEMBER 25 – **Hope Center Ministries** host the **Gala 2021** at 6 pm at the Henry County Fairgrounds. Join them for a night of delicious food, fellowship and fundraising. All proceeds benefit the Hope Center Ministries, a Christ-centered Recovery Program. For more information call 731-924-3784.

— OCTOBER —

October 1 & 2 – Looking for something to do? Head over to the **31st Annual Hazel Day Celebration**. Starts at Noon on the 1st with live music, vendors, a parade, petting zoo, photo contest and sales galore at the local shops. For more information go to <http://hazelcelebration.wixsite.com/hazel>.

OCTOBER 2 – It's **Oktoberfest** at the Henry County Fairgrounds! Don't miss the booths, games, face painting, funnel cakes, silent auction, petting zoo, bake sale, homestyle German meal, authentic Mexican meals and much more. 11 am- 7 pm. Brought to you by Holy Cross Catholic Church. For information call 731-642-4681.

OCTOBER 7 – **Lifeline Blood Mobile** is open from 12-6 pm at First United Methodist Church. Call Tammy Hurst at 1-800-924-6572 extension 310 for more information.

OCTOBER 7 – Community Health Screening by HCMC at Farm Bureau from 8:30 – 10:30 am. For more information call 731-644-8269.

OCTOBER 9 – Hungry? Make your way to the **Blues, Brews & BBQ** at the Henry County Fairgrounds! You'll find food, fun, beer and music. For more information contact 731-642-3431.

OCTOBER 11-15 – Take a break! It's **Fall Break** for kids in the Henry County School System and the PSSD. For more information call 731-642-9733 or 731-642-9322, respectively.

OCTOBER 28 – Looking for some star powered fun? Join **The Edwards Twins, 2 Brothers - 100 Stars** at KPAC, 7 pm. This show is Las Vegas's #1 Impersonation Show with performances as Cher, Elton, Dolly and many more. Tickets start at \$27. For more information call 731-644-2517.

OCTOBER 31 – Boo! Watch out for those wee little ghosts and goblins on your way home from work...it's **HALLOWEEN!**

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What's New with West Tennessee Bone & Joint Clinic

Lots of things are new at West Tennessee Bone & Joint Clinic that will enhance each patient's experience.

"We're proud of the appealing, modern design, but we think what our patients will really appreciate is the fact that the entire clinic is now under one roof. We needed this space for patients and staff, and we are all more than thrilled to finally be moving in," said Chip Anderson, Chief Financial Officer.

New examination rooms have been added, along with additional procedure rooms. Conference/educational rooms have also been incorporated. Patients and their families will appreciate the new, expanded lobby with a 2x2 television viewing experience, as well as a futuristic lighting design overhead. A tip-of-the-hat to the past, a wall of historical, Henry County photos fill one lobby wall.



WELCOME CRYSTAL CROSSER, FNP-C !

Crosser is now seeing patients at **West Tennessee Bone & Joint Clinic**, bringing over a decade of experience to the team.

After earning her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Alabama in Huntsville, she worked in the Emergency Department at Huntsville Hospital, Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, and Williamson Medical Center in Franklin. She decided to further her education and pursue a Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Alabama in Huntsville, graduating in 2009. She then worked in various clinical settings in Florida, where she was able to gain additional experience in patient care.

At **West Tennessee Bone & Joint Clinic**, she will provide individualized care tailored to each patients' unique needs. She is certified in Basic Life Support and Advanced Cardiac Life Support, which allows better support to her patients.



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