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IN SPRING 2024







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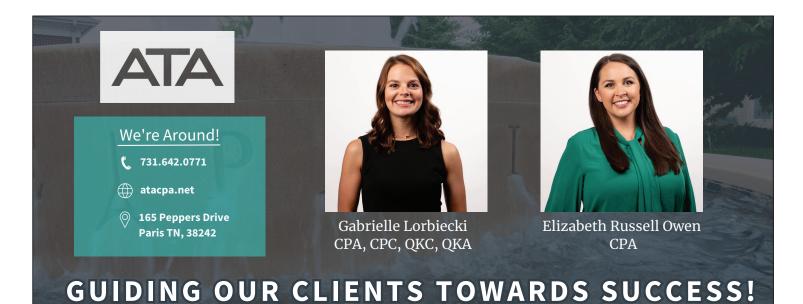
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2 PARIS! In Spring 2024



## HELLO, SPRING! and Some Farewells

Spring is a season that symbolizes new beginnings and fresh starts. And that's exactly how mine has started. We recently took a road trip to "the happiest place on earth," yes, Disney World, where we spent a few days exploring the parks. When it was time to head back to Paris, two of us flew home, one staved behind. After graduating from Bethel University, my oldest daughter, Savannah, got a job working in Magic Kingdom. While we miss her immensely, she's making the most of this spring and having the time of her life. Good luck, baby girl! We'll "see ya real soon."

One of the things I love most about PARIS! Magazine is our ability to combine the exciting present with the noteworthy past. That's the case in this 20th anniversary issue, which opens with Nancy Elliott's sweet memories of her parents' Red House Antiques store, followed by Steve Mc-Cadam's cure for spring fever. Spoiler alert, the tonic involves a fishing pole.

Our town's quest for better health is celebrated with three, exciting

#### **ON THE COVER**

The year was 1956...last week of April...Fish Fry Friday...Grand Parade Day in Paris, Tennessee. This image was taken by an unknown local photographer taking a risk by being perched on a high roof or window, but thanks for the memories! And for PARIS!...20 years of great memories and interesting stories.

pieces including horseback riding therapy; help for Parkinson's patients; and a new, local outpatient opportunity for addiction.

Dr. Josh Coleman explains the finer and funnier points of Rotary Club, while Interim Chamber Director Rachel Steedly offers timely news about the upcoming Tennessee River Jam. Speaking of entertainment, don't miss Iris Shepherd and her music video appearance with two musical greats. There's lots more, including travel, gardening, cooking, dining, and calendar of events.

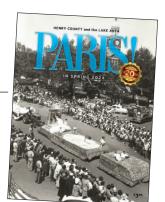
Before closing, we pause to bid a fond, PARIS! farewell to one of our town's most beloved merchants. Charles Hopkins or Mr. Charles, as he was known to many, left us in early February. For decades, this passionate businessman made certain that the gentlemen who shopped at the Toggery were the best dressed men at the office, at the party, on the golf course or at a wedding. He donated his time and vast experience to Downtown Paris and the activities that made it a shopping destination for locals and



tourists, alike. Our holiday cover in 2012 featured Mr. Charles getting Santa ready for his annual debut during Downtown's North Pole Family Fun Day. And that's

the way many of us will remember this Paris icon, as the individual who made sure everyone, even Santa, always looked his best. We already miss you, Mr. Charles.

Smantha



Henry County and the Lake Area



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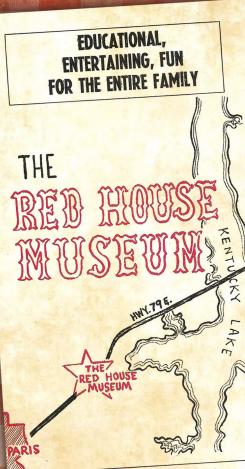
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hen Highway 79 was still a two-lane road, an interesting landmark was seen on the way to Kentucky Lake – the Red House Antiques and Museum, owned by Gene and Sophia Snider. Drivers could see the shop for miles because of the huge windmill in the parking lot. The store was part curio shop, part antiques, and part museum. And everyone remembers Oscar the spider monkey!

But all the items were a collection of a real picker long before "American Pickers" became a popular television show. Their daughter, Nancy Elliott, remembers it well. "Anything was game for Daddy to bring home," she said. "And for my brothers Charlie, David, and me, it was glorious! What a perfect match of personalities and talents our parents were — Daddy with his Type A salesman personality and Mother with a gentle smile and knack of making anything look desirable."

REMEMBER WHEN

ONE MAN'S JUNK

Is Another Man's Treasure

Remembering The Red House Antiques And Museum

"As boxes overflowed and rooms filled, Mother's gentle voice became firm and clear, and she was forced to go to auctions with him to keep him from spending the grocery money. That's when the dream went from black and white to the life of the Red House Antiques and Museum. She had the bug too."

The shop had a modest beginning as a place to store all the discovered items. In handwritten notes, Gene Snider recalled *"A friend called me one night and said he had nearly 2 acres on* 79E for \$1500. I came and looked and had the potential of getting the money. A friend gave me an old restaurant building that had been moved on a farm. It was about 16 X 45. The movers charged \$700 for moving it and some of the boys said later they felt so sorry for me because they thought it would fall *apart before they got here.*" Later with several additions, the place became a regular stop for locals, antique lovers, history buffs, and tourists.

The whole family was a part of the business. "Charlie remembers the real digging and wide-eyed looks of great finds. He spent hours restoring furniture," said Elliott. "I remember manning the old cash register, the stick candy on the counter, the stack of 33<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> records I had to keep flipping to keep the music going, and helping Mother wash lampshades and every piece of glass and china to keep it sparkling."

The couple's love of history was contagious and soon people asked to have their own treasures included in the one-room museum. In 1966, they wrote letters to heads of state of 119 countries, requesting military items in particular. A variety of items came in response, including turn-of-the-century newspapers to military uniforms to an original oil portrait of Hideki Tojo which was removed from the presidential palace when the Philippines were liberated in 1945 during World War II. Also displayed on the walls of the museum were framed autographed photographs of United States leaders and well-known celebrities.

"Mother researched constantly and became one of the most knowledgeable people in West Tennessee on the value of antique pieces and placed their code on the bottoms of pieces in the shop to show how much Daddy had paid for each piece," said Elliott. "I suppose when it reached this stage, it wasn't referred to as junk anymore."

But why was there a monkey in the shop? "Everyone remembers Oscar, the spider monkey. He was a gift to Charlie when he was a very sick little boy but he later became a main attraction, but our life with Oscar is another story for another time," said Elliott.

When Gene Snider's health declined from heart disease, the family worked hard to return the personal items people had donated from their family collections. Some things were donated to the Paris- Henry County Heritage Center and others were sold. Gene died in 1995; Sophia in 2021.

The building has since been demolished but the memories still linger for Elliott. "I can see Daddy running across the parking lot waving, 'Hey, let me show you one more thing.' They kept coming back because he kept dreaming and picking."



In 1991, actress and Paris native Ula Love autographed her photo for Gene Snider at a reception given in her honor at the Greystone Hotel.



Gene and Sophia Snider are dressed dapper in period clothing from their museum during the Henry County Sesquicentennial celebration in 1973. Gene is wearing a coat once owned by Governor James D. Porter.



Driving down Highway 79, this windmill was a landmark leading to the Red House Antiques and Museum.



Sophia Snider poses with one of her many decorative lampshades. It was believed she had the largest selection of replacement shades in the area.



# **SPRING FEVER** Can Be Tolerated Yet The Cure Still Evades

othing quite compares to spring fever. Around the Kentucky Lake region it's known to run rampart this time of year without discrimination. Fishermen and most everyone falls under its spell. Both young and old. The poor and rich. Famous and unknown. So far, modern medicine hasn't come up with a cure for it, no pill in a bottle. Magic potions make claims, but none can touch it.

Around these parts about the only treatment of the spring fever itch symptoms are frequent trips to ponds, lakes and rivers. Shady spots on shorelines have proven to have majestic healing powers when accompanied by the sweet smell of honeysuckle, birds chirping, warming sun and a tug on the end of a fishing line.

Truth is, a bobber disappearing at the hands of a sneaky fish has been known to cast a spell over whoever's in the midst. Excitement and enthusiasm together again. Anticipation of what's beneath the water and on the other side of life's curtain. How blessed we are to live in the rolling hills and hollows of Tennessee where all four seasons come and go, each

#### By Steve McCadams

with its own personality.

Around these parts, we've got not only fish jumping and turkeys gobbling but The World's Biggest Fish Fry annual celebration to help chase away the winter blues. Not a bad place to live, work and retire.

We may not harbor the Fountain of Youth that explorer Ponce de León laid claim to centuries ago in sunny Florida (took a sip there decades ago and still waiting for it to kick in), but this neck of the woods has an abundance of amenities, many of which rekindle themselves once spring descends.

For me growing up while afflicted with spring fever meant frequent fishing trips with my dad to lots of places, but nothing compared to Kentucky Lake. When dogwoods bloomed and the bobwhites whistled, we hightailed it to fish the crappie spawn on this massive recreational wonderland. One could hear the fish calling! Places like Springville Pump House, Britton Ford, and the upper end of Big Sandy basin were filled with shoreline buck bushes which provided a mecca for spawning crappie. The submerged root wads of the bushes and abundant willows were destinations for big slab crappie to deposit their eggs once warm days arrived.

With cane poles out the back window of the car or tied to the door handles, a short aluminum boat, sculling paddle and primitive little temperamental running outboard, like Santa's sled we were en route on a magical mystery tour.

No fancy electronic gadgets or trolling motors. Didn't know what they were back then anyway. Fish caught were placed in a wet burlap sack or sometimes clipped on a metal stringer dangled from the boat. Still in its infancy, Kentucky Lake was a little heaven on earth to me and thousands of other kids and families who ventured here from all over. It was a magnet whose force pulled folks to its waters in search of fond times.

Today I navigate the massive waterway with a big fast boat full of modern technology. Readouts of everything from water temperatures to pinpoint location courtesy of GPS (global positioning systems) that receive signals from satellites somewhere in the high heavens adorns my fancy fishing rig. Modern technology is still a mystery to me. I sometimes return to the same fishing spots and pause to reflect just how far things have come. It's mind boggling.

I often shut the big 4-stroke engine off and coast back in time. Pause and reflect. Regain a moment of youth when life was simple. In a foggy moment of distant memory I see familiar shorelines and little pockets where jungle habitat attracted my dad and me; cane poles in hand we went stalking the tiny openings within buck bushes where slab crappie slept.

With a little wooden paddle my dad silently sculled the boat through the confines of snags. We dunked live goldfish minnows in and around likely spots, often using a short line and pencil style bobber which had three red rings on the top side. Sometimes I swear I can still see it disappear in an ageless dream.

Seeing it vanish at the blink of an eye was nothing short of utopia! Up from the tiny holes within the bush would emerge a huge white crappie,



The boat and the rod might be more fancy, but Steve McCadams still can reel the crappie in on Kentucky Lake.

flopping and tugging with an idea of returning to where it came from.

Elsewhere were other anglers doing the same thing. Some even ventured out of the boat and took to wading around this shallow fertile fishery. Not me. Sometimes snakes occupied the buck bushes, sunning themselves across the thick limbs.

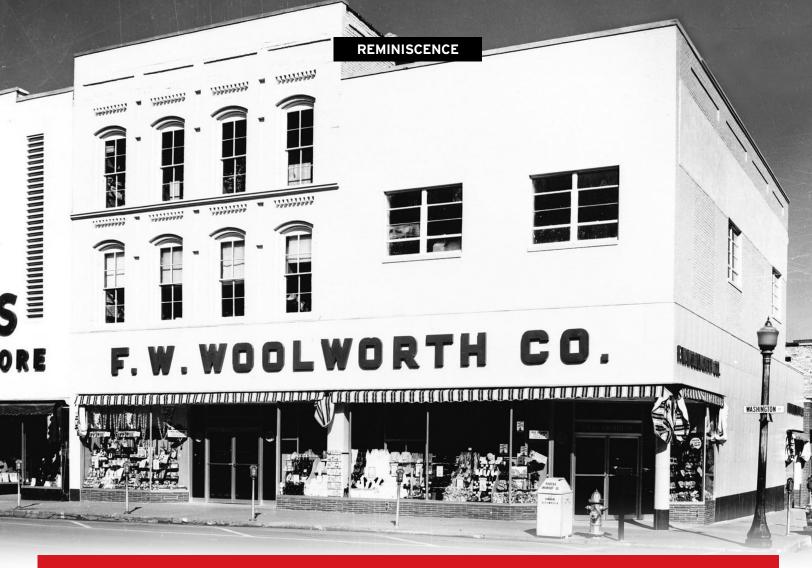
Early in life I developed respect and fear of snakes. Yet we tolerated their existence but stayed well aware of the occasional cottonmouth that sometimes possessed a bad disposition and affinity for the smell of our fish stringer dragging across the water.

Dad's watchful eye and guiding words of wisdom helped me to adapt. It was unchartered water for a youngster in awe of the natural movie playing out before my eyes. Wood ducks swimming by with a brood, turtles laying on logs, bullfrogs bellowing. It was their home, and I was just visiting.

Seems about everything in the world has changed...except for the side effects of spring fever! Perhaps you have a few of your own that resurface every year about this time.

Steve McCadams is an avid sportsman, hunting and fishing guide, and talented outdoors writer. His email address is stevemc@charter.net.





# **F.W.WOOLWORTH CO.** The Store With Everything Anyone Could Want

rom the response we received when we posted an old photo and short history of the Woolworth Store on our Facebook page, it appears that many people still harbor affectionate feelings for the former mainstay in downtown Paris.

Woolworth's opened in downtown Paris in 1928. In the 1950s, Woolworth's moved into the long-time location for Blanton's Grocery Store, which was located at the corner of Poplar and Washington Streets, doubling in size, adding new depart-

#### By Shannon McFarlin

ments and a new electric elevator. They had been right next door, so it wasn't too far of a move. The expansion was celebrated with a ribbon-cutting with gold scissors and remarks from Mayor J.J. Thompson, Chamber President Mitchum Warren and Judge Ellis Carter.

The new electric elevator to the second floor replaced the old handdrawn elevator that had been in use since it opened. The new store boasted new lighting, new flooring, and air conditioning that even went into the restrooms! With the move, the store could expand its pet department, candy and nut counter, comics and records sections and have new lines of clothing, housewares, flowers and more.

Woolworth's remained open there until the 1970s. That was plenty of time to establish a faithful clientele. And that they did. Their old customers are still loyal in their love for Woolworth's all these years later.

Our post about Woolworth's drew over 100 responses from our readers and they shared memories of what they loved best and many saying they could stay in Woolworth's "for hours."

Janice Neese Charles said she remembers the store fondly, especially the day her Dad took her there and bought her a tricycle. "We tried it out on the sidewalk out in front. It was always a treat to go there, even if you were just looking around."

Many people remember it as a special place to go when families would come into town on Saturdays. Sherry Robertson, Kevin Weaks and Randall Buie remembered those family trips to town. Kevin especially remembers looking at comics, while Sherry remembers buying all her parakeets there. Kathy Page said she can still hear those parakeets as she strolled through the store. Some people can even remember the smell of the candy and roasted nuts that greeted them when they walked in the front door.

Others recall exactly how much their favorite items cost. The neopolitan ice cream sandwiches are what Barbara Hyde remembered. "They cost 9 cents and this was a major treat." K.W. Clayton said he loved listening and buying their 50 cent records and the model cars.

Ronnie Flood was one of those who went with the family on Saturdays' and he said he remembered his Daddy buying peanuts and big squares of fudge. He and his brothers were given 50 cents to buy whatever they wanted, which usually included model cars to put together.

I think we can all agree, Ronnie said it best with, "Those were the good old days."



Woolworth's original location in 1928.





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**AROUND OUR TOWN** 

### ABLE FARMS

GIN

Now to him who is ABLE to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine

EQUALI

# Where RESTORATION And Wholeness BEGINS

t's been a long and winding road, but the organizers of ABLE Farms can finally see light at the end of the road. ABLE Farms started, as most things do, as the germ of an idea among people wanting to continue the good work of the Hoof Beats of Hope.

Hoof Beats of Hope was a therapeutic riding experience for kids and adults and was located in the Cottage Grove area for several years. It did a lot of good for a lot of people. Friends of the program wanted to continue that work and asked themselves, "Why can't we?"

Fundraising the seed money and finding land for the program has been quite a task, but ABLE Farms found a nice piece of land at 1100 Sulphur Well Academy Road and developed a motto which combines the past with the future: "ABLE Stables, Where Hoof Beats of Hope Are Heard".

ABLE Farms' goal for the spring of 2024 is to operate on a limited basis and organizers said they are grateful to be able to stand on the shoulders

#### By Shannon McFarlin

of Hoof Beats of Hope, which they call "the community giant."

As did Hoof Beats of Hope, ABLE Farms longs to create a space of belonging, love and equality for people of all abilities and backgrounds. ABLE Farms is designed around the innate ability of a horse to connect with both children and adults – especially those with special needs, disabilities and those who have encountered trauma, abuse, or neglect. Such connection provides a unique and powerful context for healing, restoration and wholeness to begin.

Organizers said 2023 was a wonderful year but frustrating, as the dream of ABLE Farms was refined and refocused. "It has not been easy and has at times been discouraging. It has been disheartening to see the obstacles placed in front of people, organizations, ministries, etc. who seek to help others, particularly those with special needs and disabilities. And yet with each roadblock came the opportunity for us to pause, pivot, and to lay down our versions of what this dream looks like in exchange for a version that is more robust and full of possibilities than we could have ever imagined! While the current dream of ABLE Farms looks different than that dream scribbled onto a napkin two years ago, we are more excited than ever about the future of ABLE Farms and its impact in this community."

One of the founders, Dr. Kyle Stephens, said the word that best describes how organizers feel about the support that has already been shown to the program is: "Grateful! Grateful, grateful, grateful!"

As a powerful illustration of just what they are grateful for, consider this. At its first public fundraising event in February, \$10,000 was raised at a pancake breakfast at the county fairgrounds. A small army of volunteers was hard at work, setting up the informational and merchandise booths and chopping, grilling, cooking and serving the pancakes, eggs, sausages, coffee and juice.

"We were estimating 450 people," Dr. Stephens said. With a steady stream of hungry visitors all morning, they raised just over \$10,000. "With it being our first pancake breakfast, we didn't really know what to expect but it far exceeded our expectations. We're so thankful for this community."

And even before that, ABLE Farms began fundraising early in December 2023 with \$15,000 given in matching gifts before the end of the year. In just over two weeks they had received over \$17,000.

ABLE Farms officials said, "We are humbled by your generosity and your belief in the vision of ABLE Farms to create a space of belonging, love, and equality for people of all abilities and backgrounds."

To donate, you can mail a check to 1050 Sulphur Well Academy Road, Springville, TN 38256. You can receive more information on ABLE Farms on its Facebook page and website. They also have merchandise for purchase, including ABLE Farms t-shirts, hoodies, crews, hats, stickers, and stick horses which are a big hit with the kids.



Volunteers helped raised \$10,000 for ABLE Farms with a pancake breakfast.

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#### HEALTHY IDEAS

FIGHTING BACCK ROCK STEADY

BOXING PROGRAM

ock Steady Boxing Paris (RSBP) is an affiliate, non-contact boxing program designed to help those living with Parkinson's Disease (PD) fight back against the disease and the daily symptoms that they endure. RSBP was established in April 2021, with the dream to help those in the Paris community living with PD to live a healthier, stronger, longer, and more active lifestyle.

RSBP creates a safe space for anyone with a PD diagnosis to come together, learn more about Parkinson's Disease, work towards improving their confidence, and feel empowered as they work towards building strength, restoring balance, increasing range of motion, and establishing a connection with those within the class who are fighting the same battle.

Recent studies suggest that intense exercise programs may be "neuroprotective," actually working to delay the progression of symptoms. RSB provides encouragement through a "tough love" approach, inspiring maximum effort, speed, strength, balance and flexibility. Boxing works by moving your body in all planes of

#### BY SWAY CLEMENT

AGAINST PARKINSON'S

motion with continuous changes of sequence and routine as you progress through the workout. RSB classes have proven that anyone, at any level of Parkinson's, can actually lessen their symptoms and lead a healthier and happier life.

Classes are taught by certified Rock Steady Boxing coaches and are held on Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays, 1:30-3:00 pm, at the Atkins Porter Recreation Center. The classes focus on battling Parkinson's at its vulnerable neurological points through the use of focus mitts, heavy bags, speed bags, jump rope, core work, balance training, core strengthening, calisthenics, stretching/ mobility and circuit weight training. No boxing experience is necessary and people of all ages are invited to participate. Boxers, both male and female, range in age from mid-30s to early 90s.

Every April, RSBP celebrates their anniversary along with Parkinson's Awareness Month by hosting a local benefit where all proceeds go back to RSBP for class improvement. This year's benefit will be held on April



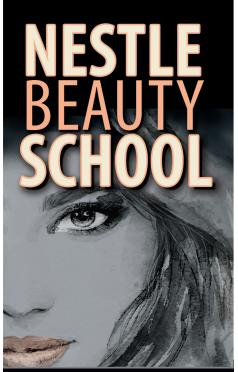
Pictured are members of the Rock Steady Boxing Program with their coaches Sway Clement and Chris Hollingworth.

5, at the IGA parking lot, 10:30 am – 2:00pm, where sack lunches will be sold. To return the loving support that RSBP has received from the Paris community, our boxers and their loved ones enjoy giving back by serving at the Fish Tent during the Paris Fish Fry as well. So come say hi to us this year at our benefit or the Fish Fry! We'd love to meet you!

If you or a loved one has Parkinson's Disease, learn more about Rock Steady Boxing Paris by contacting Sway at 270-293-7929 or send us a message on our Facebook page, Rock Steady Boxing Paris.



Above: Coach Chris Hollingsworth instructs Bill Wilson on punching bag techniques. Previous page: Bobby Dyer is focused on fighting back his Parkinson's symptom.



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SPOTLIGHT

# RECOVERY IS POSSIBLE

Local Ministry Licensed For Outpatient Program

here is one thing for certain: a person doesn't get up one morning and say, "Well, I think I will become an addict to-

day." It is a dependency often beyond one's control, and be it drugs or alcohol, the habit is not easily conquered alone.

Until recently, individuals with an addiction discovered the nearest Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) for recovery is in Jackson, Tennessee. But the local Connections Prayers Ministries saw an urgent need, and in three years, a part of their ministry is now licensed by the State of Tennessee's Department of Substance Abuse and Mental Health to provide a local outpatient program.

"What began in early 2023 as an attempt to reach the underserved has now grown into a movement to connect people and resources where needed," said Shani Campbell, local minister and founder of Connections Prayer Ministries, Inc. "The mental health care services in our area are overwhelmed."

#### By Karen Geary

It became apparent through her ministry that people with addictions were sometimes not treated for the origins of their pain while in a recovery program, and relapse was a possible outcome. The group began with one-on-one counseling sessions and has recently expanded to the intensive outpatient model. The organization is now taking IOP applications for the next group of clients.

Suzan Wolski, board of directors president for the ministry, has seen firsthand the need for the local recovery program. "As an educator, I've unfortunately seen several previous students of mine die by suicide. That's when I started getting personally involved with community campaigns that involved suicide prevention. In addition, we would discover during prayer sessions that there were some situations that were outside of the scope of our prayer ministry. That's when we started looking for local licensed providers. Ultimately, we long to see people healed and sometimes that takes a multi-tiered approach."

#### **MEDICAL HEALTH VS MENTAL HEALTH**

"Just consider how many physicians and specialists, as well as the Public Health Department, that we have in our county to treat physical and health problems as compared to the resources for those with mental health issues," said Jane Etheridge, court liaison for the program.

"Henry County is fortunate to have Carey Counseling Center, but their counselors' caseloads are so large that many people can't be scheduled on a regular basis. Licensed counselors in the private sector are almost non-existent and often cost prohibitive for many people. A significant number of individuals who have and continue to suffer without treatment self-medicate with drugs and alcohol to reduce their suffering. That leads to more problems for them and our community. Others consider or attempt suicide believing that there is no other way out."

#### **GETTING HELP**

Individuals who are referred or are wishing to enter the IOP, do not need

a diagnosis or sober time to qualify. They must have access to a phone and email, and random drug screens are conducted. The program does not accept any violent or sexual offenders.

"Anyone can refer to us. We have been in contact with courts, lawyers, police, EMTs, doctors, and the Department of Children's Services to name just a few," said licensed clinical social worker Jessalyn Medlock, clinical director for Connections Prayer Ministries. "Agency referrals are always welcome, but anyone can refer themselves or others. If we can help, we will. If we can't, we will figure out who can and connect them with those services."

An application must be completed in its entirety to be considered for the program. After the application and the IOP's initial assessment is completed, finances are evaluated and a plan is made to fund the treatment. The program is aware that most people will not have insurance or are not in a financial position to invest in their own recovery, but Connections doesn't want inability to pay to be the reason a person to not get help. Donations from concerned citizens, businesses, and civic groups help defray expenses.

IOP clients meet for three hours on weekdays in Paris for about four months or until they meet all graduation requirements. The program utilizes a combination of the Matrix Model for Substance Abuse, 12-Step Recovery, anger management and a shame/guilt curriculum to provide clients with a comprehensive treatment plan. Clients are also provided with resources and support throughout



Members of the Connection Ministry's Intensive Outpatient Program staff: (left to right) Suzan Wolski, Jessalyn Medlock, Jane Etheridge, and Shani Campbell.

their tenure, which includes support with housing, transportation, employment, court dates, DCS meetings, and much more.

#### FAITH AND RECOVERY

"Our program is different from traditional IOP in that we also incorporate faith as part of the recovery process. Connections Prayer Ministries is first and foremost a ministry, meaning we want to see the people we help come to saving faith in Jesus Christ. We believe God wants us to utilize the tools He has provided within our program and our community so that we can provide our clients with the skills they need to maintain sobriety long after they leave us," said Campbell. "This kind of program will not just change the lives of those who complete it, but also the lives of every other person in their lives."

"When someone is able to recover from drug or alcohol addiction, their entire world shifts. That person's family, friends, acquaintances will see



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and feel the changes being made in that person's life. Just one life in recovery can impact many more lives," said Medlock.

The organization's mission statement is: "Rooted in faith, supported by science, seeking wholeness and sobriety for lasting recovery." If you would like to financially support the ministry, or obtain more information on the program, visit their website at www.connectionsprayer.com.



#### FACES & PLACES



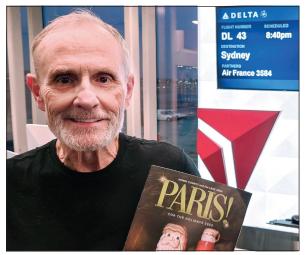
Dan Knowles greeted guests to the arts exhibit opening of Prescott Smith's art. The paintings and sculptures are on display at the Paris Academy for the Arts through April 27.



Savannah Parker shows off her name tag after recently moving to Florida to work at Disney World.



Everly Clement enjoyed some sunshine while playing at Eiffel Tower park.



PARIS! Magazine fan Bill Perkins made sure he had the latest magazine on his recent trip Down Under.



The Henry Co. Bicentennial Committee received a Local History Book Award from Acclaim Press. In photo, from left: Kathy Ray, Marsha Banasiewicz, Beth Fay, Publisher Doug Sikes, Carl Holder, Stephanie Tayloe and Jackie Jones.





MacKenzie Petronico, Ava Higgins, and Addy Kate Parker had a good time at the Winter Formal at HCHS.



Elise Myers went to support the Paris First UMC Day at Helping Hand and came home with a new puppy. Good boy, Deacon!



Ray Lewis, right, donates \$2,000 to the Paris-Henry Co. Food Bank to Food Bank President David Flowers from the Paris Elks Lodge. The Lodge also donated \$4,000 to The Shed from grants received by the Elks.



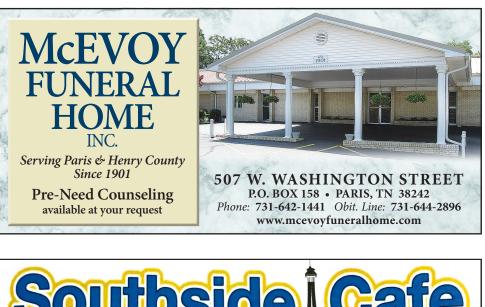
Rattlesnake Annie- better known as Rosann McGowan to her old Puryear friends - visited Henry County and made sure she saw the downtown mural that includes a portrait of her. The mural was done by Paris Artist Dan Knowles.



The Henry County Prevention Coalition: Empowering the Community had a great turnout for their Enpowered Parents event at KPAC. Program speakers brought vital information for those in attendance.











18 PARIS! In Spring 2024

Rotary Club members volunteered at this year's Helping Hand Radio Auction. One "lucky loser" advertised the yearly breakfast in a "Hammy the Pig" costume.

## PARIS ROTARY CLUB One Profits Most Who Serves Best (Country Ham)

FEATURE

Paris

HAM BREAKFAST

**ROTARY CLUB** 

Vith scrambled Eggs, Grits, Biscuit & Gravy Beeting Rolony Club's Chantles SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2024

hat exactly is the Rotary Club? Is it a group of people that like to spin around in the chairs? Or maybe individuals that enjoy sitting in a circle? While both of those sound like great fun, the Rotary Club is much more than that.

The original Rotary Club was started by Chicago attorney Paul Harris in 1905. Harris wanted an organization that could efficiently foster relationships among business professionals. It was called the Rotary Club because the meeting location rotated between member's offices. The original Rotary Club began with just four members. Today, Rotary International has 46,000 clubs with 1.4 million total members in 220 countries.

Along with the goal of forming relationships between members, the Rotary Club is a service organization. The clubs are dedicated to improving the communities they exist in and the world as a whole. The principle mottos of Rotary are "Service Above By Joshua Coleman

Self" and "One Profits Most Who Serves Best."

Rotary International has participated in many service projects but none are more impacting than the goal of eradicating the devastating and paralyzing disease of polio from the earth. This endeavor began in 1979. Rotary has contributed over 2.6 billion dollars toward this program.While each club falls under the Rotary International umbrella, each individual club worldwide have their own unique identity with their own service projects.

The Paris Rotary Club celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2021. The club currently meets at the Paris Academy for the Arts on Thursdays and has about 75 members. Several of the members have been in the club for over 40 years.

Their longest serving club member, Leon Ridgeway, has been a member for 54 years come July, 2024. "I joined the club when I was born!" jokes Ridgeway. The Paris Rotary Club decided to begin an annual breakfast fundraiser in the 1970s. Various formats were proposed, including a tofu breakfast, but finally a ham breakfast won out.

This year marked the 51st Ham Breakfast served by the local organization, and the meal only skipped one year because of COVID in 2021.

The first breakfast was served at the Farm Bureau building and then switched to Nathan Vick's restaurant. From Vick's, it moved to the Jim Adams Cafeteria. After Jim Adams closed, it moved to the high school and then lastly to the present location of Paris Elementary School. (Tofu really wasn't discussed as an option!)

A typical Ham Breakfast menu consists of Clifty Farm country ham, eggs, biscuits, gravy, coffee, milk, and orange juice. For several years, the Beta Club youth have assisted Rotary members in serving the hungry guests. In later years, a bake sale was added to the ham breakfast. (A little sweet to get the salt out...genius!)





David Flowers puts his back into gravy for the annual Rotary Club Ham Breakfast.

A typical Ham Breakfast and Bake Sale raises approximately \$10,000. Those funds are used for youth scholarships and other charitable causes.

The current Paris Rotary Club president is Jay Travis. Travis is a fourth generation Paris Rotarian. His father, grandfather, and great-grandfather were all members of the local club. Travis came up with a unique idea for this year's breakfast. Club members were drafted into four groups. These groups were responsible for providing two programs during club meetings in January and February. The co-captains from the



Leon Ridgeway gives a summary of the Ham Breakfast.

teams voted for the "least best" program with the losing captain wearing a pig costume at the ham breakfast.

"I wanted to inspire the club to have the best ham breakfast ever and have a little fun at the same time," stated Travis.

The Paris Rotary Club has been an integral part of the Paris community since 1921 and looks forward to providing "Service Over Self" for the next 100 years.

Joshua Coleman, OD is a local optometrist and serves as the assistant treasurer of the Paris Rotary Club.



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FEATURE

Sister Hazel

T READY FOR

ENNESSEE RIVER

Little Texas

he Tennessee River Jam is excited to announce its highly anticipated return for 2024, featuring an electrifying lineup headlined by country legends Little Texas and renowned rock band Sister Hazel. The event is scheduled to begin on Saturday, June 1 in Downtown Paris.

This year's main event will be a free concert featuring Little Texas, Sister Hazel, and local acts, The Shoemakers, Josh McKee, and an exciting reunion of the band Special Request. Other concerts will take place at Dew Drop In, Blue's Landing, LL's Bar and Grill, The Breakers, and Eiffel Tower Park. Watch for a more detailed schedule with performing artists to be released soon.

Little Texas is a country powerhouse known for chart-topping hits like, "What Might Have Been" and "God Blessed Texas. Sister Hazel appeals to multiple generations of rock fans with melodic hits like, "All for You" and "Champagne High."

Rachel Steedly, interim director of the Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce, expressed her enthusiasm for the upcoming Tennessee River Jam: "The Tennessee River Jam has always been a highlight on our community's calendar, and we're excited to bring it back in 2024 with such fantastic headliners. We appreciate the continued support of Trolinger's as our presenting sponsor, which allows us to create memorable experiences for our community. While changes have been made this year, the spirit of unity and celebration remain unchanged. We can't wait to see familiar faces and new friends at this year's event."

Michael Trolinger echoed Steedly's sentiment: "As a former HCHS Madrigal in a family that LOVES music, Tennessee River Jam is a great fit for Trolinger's to support. Having this event in our own county, we aim to strengthen our community, celebrate our common love for music, and create memorable moments for families and music fans. But it's about more than music for us; it's about creating a feeling of togetherness and happiness among locals and visitors. The multi-day event brings in visitors from near and far to show them our warmth, talent and energetic life here in little ol' Paris."

"It is great to meet new people and see unfamiliar faces in our local business during the event. This large undertaking means more than business to us; it reflects our commitment to giving back and boosting the growth and health of our home. We aim to build a stronger community that thrives on shared interest and mutual support by uniting people through music."

An undertaking such as River Jam could not happen without the assistance of our community. "Tennessee River Jam is a perfect blend of tourism, economic development, and community pride through outstanding musical events. It would not be possible without the support of the



city and county government as well as the many sponsors throughout our community," said Paris City Mayor Kathy Ray. "Not only do we bring well known talent into our community, but we also have some of the best local musical talent in the state. As legendary Rocking Randal says 'Tennessee River Jam and music is a part of our identity. This is what I love about my hometown.'"

Sponsorship opportunities are still available. For more information on that, media inquiries, or to learn more about the event, contact the Chamber of Commerce at 731-642-3431.

Also follow "Tennessee River Jam" on Facebook for the latest news.

Rachel Steedly is the interim director for the Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce.



Music lovers of all ages kicked up their heels and enjoyed last year's Tennessee River Jam. Below: John McDaniel performed on one of the River Jam stages.





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SHEPHERD Plays For

Local violinist Iris Shepherd of Henry, Tennessee, found herself thrust into the limelight when she was chosen to appear in the latest music video by iconic musicians Dolly Parton and Melissa Manchester. The video, set to Manchester's song "Midnight Blue," features Iris playing the role of a "busker" performing for the legendary duo.

"It was quite a surprise!" recalled Iris's father, Scott Shepherd, Associate Director of Bethel University's Renaissance Program. Seemingly out of the blue, Melissa Manchester's manager contacted Iris. A few days later, Iris was on Nashville's famed Music Row shooting the video alongside two music legends.

During the filming, sightseeing buses would drive by, completely oblivious to the fact that Dolly Parton and Melissa Manchester were right in front of them!

Iris's mother, Traci Shepherd, shed more light on the thrilling opportunity. Melissa Manchester's manager contacted Iris's long-time violin teacher, Connie Heard, Chair of the Strings Department at Vanderbilt University, who recommended Iris for the role. Iris even had the fun task of selecting a fellow student to join her in the video.

FEATURE

The experience was unforgettable for Iris. "Being on set with Dolly Parton and Melissa Manchester was beyond incredible," she explained. Having them both autograph her violin book made it even more memorable. "I may be the only girl in the world," she teased, "with a book of Bach's violin sonatas autographed by Dolly Parton!"



Iris Shepherd: "I may be the only girl in the world with a book of Bach's violin sonatas autographed by Dolly Parton!"

Iris's musical journey began at a young age when she started playing the violin at age 3. Since then, she has accumulated numerous accolades, including winning national awards, performing at prestigious venues like the Grand Ole Opry and the Juilliard School of Music, and soloing with symphonies across the nation—from the Fairbanks Symphony to the Georgia Philharmonic Orchestra.

Iris is a freshman at Vanderbilt University's Blair School of Music. Her decision to attend Blair School was influenced by her love for the vibrant music scene of Music City, Nashville, and the unique opportunities it offers- a decision that seems to be working in her favor! She has been part of the Blair School community since age 11, attending as a precollege student seven years before entering college.

For Iris, working alongside two musical icons was not only a dream come true but also an inspiring learning experience. "Melissa and Dolly exemplify the qualities I desire as a musician," she said. "Their warmth, kindness, and dedication to their craft are truly inspiring."

#### **ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT**

Last year, Ollie McLeese, age 7, performed a song with other children during KPAC's Young Artist stage production of *Disney's The Jungle Book KIDS*.

# The World Is Our Stage!

ummer is coming, and that means KPAC Young Artists Theatre and KPAC Players programming will go into full swing. This summer, our 5–9 year old performers will present "Disney Pixar's Finding Nemo KIDS" and our 10-14 year old performers' show is "Dear Edwina JR" from the creators of "Junie B. Jones the Musical."

As of this writing, we're waiting for the contract for our KPAC Players' show, and cannot announce a title. The KPAC Players show will include older teens and adults. KPAC also offers vocal, dance, crafting, instrumental, and other assorted opportunities.

Be aware of all that KPAC and the City of Paris offers by watching the Paris.RecDesk.com programs site. You can also watch the KPAC Young

#### By Rhonda Stanton

Artists Facebook page or check with us at Paris Civic Center for more information.

One statement we hear frequently is that folks can't believe we start theatre with children as young as five years old. "Why, some of those five year olds have not even been to kindergarten!" they'll say. In all honesty, there are days where the challenge of working with the youngest of our performers is very real. What we see in those little ones, however, is the largest capacity to imagine. And imagination is something we want to cultivate.

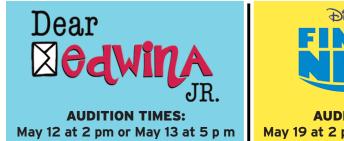
Webster defines "imagination" as "the ability to form a picture in your mind of something that you have not seen or experienced; the ability to think of new things." Einstein said, "Imagination is more important than knowledge. For knowledge is limited to all we now know and understand, while imagination embraces the entire world, and all there ever will be to know and understand."

One of the more fun parts of being a kid, or a kid at heart, is the freedom to imagine. Parents and teachers of young children encourage them to imagine, and wild or silly scenarios are be willingly embraced. As we mature, that imagination can get somewhat squelched as the requisite facts of math, science, history and this.. and that...and everything else... get stuffed in growing minds.

Without a doubt, those things are tremendously important as we grow more responsible for our own selves in this world. But would

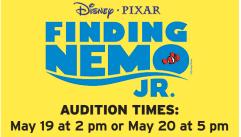


Owen Wade played Chip, the teacup and Finley Homesley was Mrs. Potts during the 2022 production of Disney's Beauty and The Beast Jr.



society understand as much about the universe if Einstein had not blended his tremendous knowledge with the willingness to set all those genius thoughts free and imagine the possibilities? Who knows? Maybe the hairdo contributed.

All that to say, theatre encourages us to continue imagining. While younger actors start by copying what their leaders tell them to do, growing actors have the opportunity to make countless interpretive choices in how to present themselves and their characters to the audience. Further choices in costume and overall design



help to create a living, palpable story. Theatre offers the opportunity to imagine how what is on the paper would play out on the stage and then to attempt to convey that to the audience.

Perhaps, as in theatre, we can use our imaginations to form pictures in our minds of good things we have not yet seen and then figure out how to convey those things in our own lives. After all, the world is our stage.

Rhonda Stanton is the Manager/Arts Programming Director at Krider Performing Arts Center for the City of Paris, TN.

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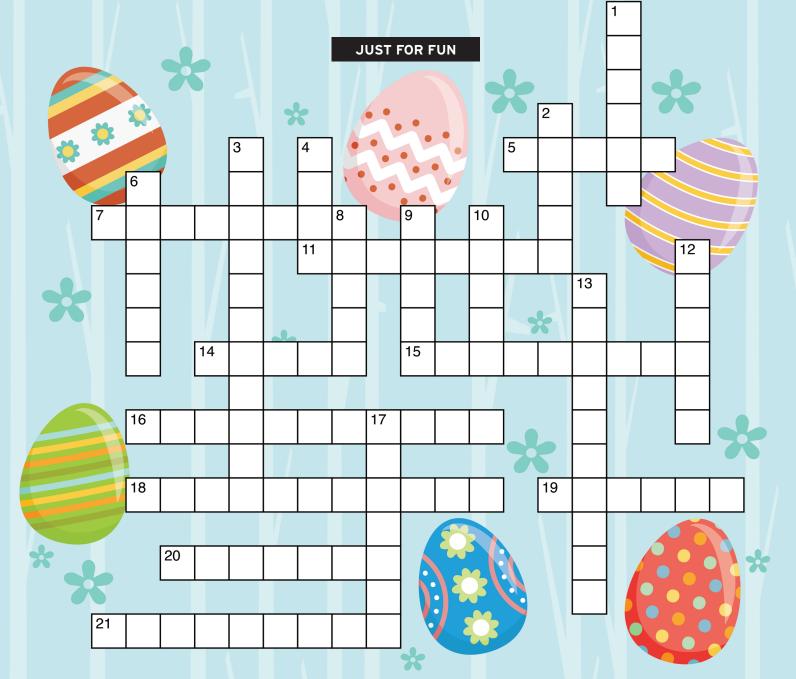




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28 PARIS! In Spring 2024



#### ACROSS

- 5. Girl's play thing or famous singer
- 7. Delicious breakfast items
- 11. Animal bought at Woolworth's by Kathy Page
- 14. Mascot for Rotary's Ham Breakfast
- 15. She is guiding client toward success.
- 16. PARIS! Magazine is celebrating this.
- 18. \_\_\_\_\_ Prayer Ministries
- 19. Iris Shepherd's musical instrument
- 20. In spring, Steve McCadams' fishes for this.
- 21. Where Hoof Beats of Hope Are Heard

#### DOWN

- 1. The \_\_\_\_\_ Book KIDS
- 2. John Watkins wants this to stop pulling up marigolds.
- 3. The ability to think of new things

#### DOWN

- 4. Bird's sound in spring
- 6. Susan's and John's traveling companion
- 8. He's in concert at Paris Academy for the Arts April 20
- 9. Type of nut or Sister's name
- 10. Perfect horse's name for a 9 year old
- 12. Rock Steady uses this sport to help patients
- 13. Try a meatless version of a Mexican favorite
- 17. They owned the Red House Antiques & Museum.

#### Puzzle Solve is on page 39

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IN THE GARDEN

# Angend to 20 YEARS!

here does the time go? Can it really be 20 years since PARIS! Magazine began its inaugural run? What an amazing accomplishment by the publishers and editors and also to the community to continue producing and supporting this great regional magazine!

And I feel especially grateful that they have allowed me to be a part of it all for the good majority of that time. From my offbeat sense of humor and sarcasm to my oft-times last minute submissions, the publishers have shown an uncanny amount of understanding and support. And to you readers out there, it still amazes me how many people will come up to me saying that they have not only read, but sometimes actually learned something from my crazy ramblings. I appreciate you all!

In trying to think of a suitable subject for this issue's submission, I started reminiscing about all of the changes that have occurred in the past 20 years. Not just in gardening terms, but my personal life and the world as a whole. Twenty years ago, I had just moved back to Paris after living and working in Rome, Georgia. (And yes, I still tell people that I have

#### By John Watkins

worked in both Rome and Paris!) After having been in Rome, working and teaching at Berry College for 12 years, Leigh and I thought it was time to get back closer to home.

After a short run of owning my own landscape contracting business, I became the lead landscape designer with Rolling Hills in Murray. When it was time for another change, I was fortunate enough to become the Grounds Director for Discovery Park of America. *(Talk about being in the right place at the right time!)* I still think it a blessing to have raised two wonderful boys *(now both men and gainfully employed in their own right)* in this wonderful town of Paris.

Since I sometimes have trouble remembering what I had for dinner the night before, I had to do a little digging to see just what was going on in the world two decades ago. Here are just a few of my personal favorites:

- Patriots win the Super Bowl. *Looks like the Chiefs might just follow that dynasty.*
- By the way, if you somehow don't remember the game itself, you might just recall the little half-time scandal with Janet Jackson and Justin Timberlake! *Can any*-

one say "wardrobe malfunction?

- George Bush re-elected. *Politics* seemed a lot simpler back then.
- The final episode of "Friends" airs. *Must See TV*
- Lord of the Rings *Return of the King* sweeps the Oscars. *Rightfully so!*
- Ronald Reagan dies. *We lost a good man.*
- The cornerstone for One World Trade Center is laid. A most somber day
- Peyton Manning signs with the Indianapolis Colts. *If only the Titans could have gotten him.*
- On somewhat of a gardening note, Martha Stewart was sentenced to 5 months in jail. *I'm sure she made her cell "homey" though.*
- And if you really want to feel old, Facebook was launched in 2004. Seems like that thing has been around forever and most people probably couldn't imagine living without it. I mean what did we possibly do before everyone had to share pictures of their meal or their child's first poop?

And just so I can officially claim that this is a garden article, I wanted to include at least a few changing trends I have noticed in the past couple of decades.

Let's start with heirloom plants. Twenty years ago this was all the rage with baby boomers and others fueling the passion for nostalgia and growing great-grandma's favorites. What we soon realized was that sometimes change is good, with improved varieties and disease resistant plants finally winning out.

#### SUSTAINABLE GARDENING

Now here's a garden trend that might have started way back but has continued to be not only a great idea, but one that's becoming more important by the day what with climate changes and more limited resources.

Xeriscaping and composting are still a big part of being sustainable, especially if you live in an area where water is in high demand and the soil is not the best.

#### **EDIBLE PLANTS**

As I stated in the last issue, landscaping with plants you can snack on while out in the garden is a surefire way to get people excited about landscaping again.

#### **GARDENING ON THE INTERNET**

Can most of us even remember when you used to have to make a trip to the bookstore or your local extension office just to find out what was eating your petunias? These days you can just snap a picture and get a wealth of information on just about any plant-related subject you want. (Just be mindful of the results you might get when you type in "Spring Bloomers in My Area.") What else can I say but congratulations to PARIS! Magazine for flourishing for the past 20 years! Can you only imagine what we'll be talking about 20 years from now? Probably something to do with why those stupid robots keep pulling up my marigolds rather than the weeds that I specifically asked them to take care of!

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



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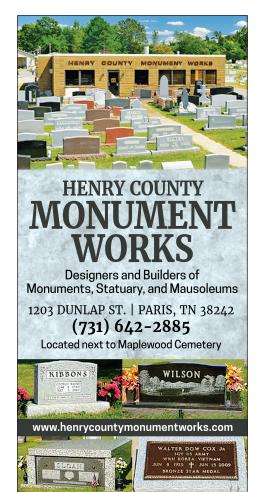
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A COUPLE OF TRAVELERS

Calvin descends the spiral staircase at the Edgar Evins State Park Office.

# EASTBOUND & DOWN! The Travelers Head to Warriors Path

#### 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.

ast May found us heading east with our camping pals, Kim and Calvin Martin. We fell in love with two fantastic Tennessee State Parks: Edgar Evins and Warriors Path, where we added a new camping buddy to the mix.

Edgar Evans State Park, near the Caney Fork River in Silver Point, Tennessee, was our first stop. This park is famous for its lush, hilly terrain; fantastic platform campsites; and a park office that features a novel spiral staircase that winds up to an observation deck high above the trees. Although all of that was interesting, I was more intrigued by the young man who nonchalantly checked us in on his computer while a snake entwined itself around his fingers – that's something you don't see every day.

While we'd seen camping platforms before, we had never camped on one. What a great idea! The unsurpassed view of the water and the nice, flat camping space more than compensated for being a few extra feet from our fire pit. It also was an easy walk down to the river.

Like any trip, there's always something crazy that happens, and often it's in the middle of the night. After a long day, we conked out about 9:00 only to be awakened at 10:00 by loud, party music reverberating through the woods. I dropped my shade and gazed far below us just in time to see an enormous party boat, complete with neon trim and tipsy revelers enroute to the marina – a late night reminder that everyone enjoys the outdoors differently.



At this Cookeville shop, Calvin and Susan left them a chalk message from Paris!

A wet morning led us to get a raincheck for our scheduled paddle trip with the gracious folks at Canoe the Caney. Instead, we turned Kim's jeep toward nearby Cookeville.

With bellows waiting for Calvin to "sound the whistle," and a recreated telegraph office where he learned to tap out morse code, the Cookeville Depot Museum was a perfect stop. Outside we played on old train cars and then wandered across the street to Cream City, where the ice cream is handmade, and the coffee is locally roasted. We even got to create some sidewalk art before heading over to the Cookeville History Museum.

The fascinating exhibits, accompanied by a helpful timeline, created a first-rate experience. Because we were "on vacation," we finished our day at the Lazy Cow Creamery, where their ice cream is "made in-house," creating the perfect ending for our jaunt.

The next morning we headed to Knoxville to pick up our buddy, Mike

Johnson. An old boy scout, Mike always carries a little bit of everything for camping, which is a big asset. Soon we were at Warrior's Path, a 950-acre, urban State Park in Kingsport, where our campground host got us situated on connected campsites.

Because it was May, the season hadn't officially started, so we couldn't rent kayaks. However, we enjoyed the Highland Rim Wildflower Trail and other trails that ran alongside the Patrick Henry Reservoir.

Because the guys wanted to golf, Kim and I planned a different agenda. Since Calvin had never been horseback riding, Kim had booked reservations in advance at Warriors Path Riding Stables.

"Zephyr" was the prefect horse for a nine-year-old boy – very mellow. My horse was friendly, but tended to "clock out" when a leafy tree branch was within reach. He refused to move until he'd snatched off every leaf, swallowing one mouthful as he grabbed for another. I'm a snacker, too, so we had that in common, but we disagreed on the overlooks.



At the Warriors Path State Park Stables, Calvin and Susan are saddled up and ready to ride the trails.

Although they were stunning, the heights made my feet sweat; I was pleased when we descended the mountain and headed for the barn.

Among the many attractions that make this a stand-out park is Darrell's Dream – a Boundless Playground. Designed for children with and without disabilities, this playground provides hours of fun for children of all ages and abilities. From a giant treehouse to the Narnia Braille Trail to the A-MAZE-ING Play Area to Sand Island and a natural creek, this park is "Calvin Approved" and is not to be missed.

On our last day, we drove to Gray, Tennessee, to the ETSU Fossil Site, Museum and Discovery Center. Two words – Bowled Over! Created after the state's Department of Transportation unearthed an area rich with fossils, the site was preserved for research and education. With hand-on activities everywhere, it's no wonder this attraction is a family favorite.

In a reproduced, indoor site, we used tools of the trade - spades and brushes - to dig up and clean fossils. Another area featured a topographical map made of sand that visitors were invited to move around, thus recreating the map and increasing their understanding of how topo maps work.

Who knew there was so much to see on this trip? Get out and about when you can and enjoy our lovely Tennessee State Parks.



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П

PARIS CUISINE

# Try Meatless Meals!

pring is finally around the corner. The season is known for colorful vegetables, picnics and of course sunshine! With spring also comes fresh herbs from our windowsill gardens and the opening of the local farmer's market, making it the perfect time to try your hand at vegan or vegetarian cooking.

Spring is full of tasty inspiration and making vegan dishes is surprisingly easy. It comes down to knowing the right combination of ingredients and substitutes. That's why we've rounded up a few of our favorite vegan recipes to share. You won't be disappointed because these dishes are simple to make and bursting with flavor.

#### **CREAMY WHITE BEAN & SPINACH QUESADILLAS**

4 Servings

#### INGREDIENTS

1 15oz. can cannellini beans

- ¾ teaspoon chili powder
- ¼ teaspoon ground cumin
- ½ teaspoon garlic powder
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 2 cups fresh spinach
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 4 oz. pepper jack cheese, shredded
- 4 8-inch flour tortillas

#### **INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Rinse and drain cannellini beans well. Once drained, transfer them to bowl and add chili powder, cumin, garlic powder, and salt. Stir to combine the beans with spices.

2. Roughly chop spinach into smaller pieces. Add spinach, cheese, and sour cream to bowl with the beans and stir to combine.

3. Divide spinach and bean mixture between the four tortillas, then fold in half to close.

4. Cook quesadillas, one or two at a time, in a skillet over medium heat until tortillas are brown and crispy and filling is melted and gooey (3-5 minutes each side).

5. Cut quesadillas in half, then serve. Serve with nice tangy salsa like smoky chipotle red salsa

#### CREAMY MUSHROOM RAMEN

#### 1 Serving

#### INGREDIENTS

½ tablespoon cooking oil
4 oz. baby bella mushrooms
1½ cups vegetable broth
1 handful fresh spinach
1 package ramen noodles (discard seasoning)
½ cup canned coconut milk

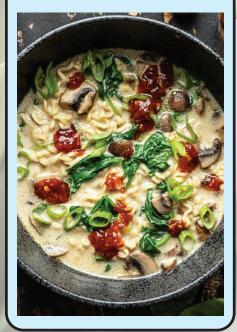
#### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Slice the mushrooms. Add to a small sauce pot with the cooking oil and sauté over medium heat until the mushrooms are soft, dark, and all the moisture in the bottom of the pot has evaporated.

2. Add vegetable broth, turn the heat up to medium-high, and bring broth up to boil. Once boiling, add ramen noodles (without seasoning packet) to broth. Cook the noodles in broth for about 3 minutes, or until tender.

3. Turn heat off, add heaping handful of fresh spinach, and stir until spinach is wilted. Pour coconut milk into pot and stir to combine.

4. Optional garnishes: 1 green onion, sliced, 1 Tbsp chili garlic sauce or sriracha sauce.



#### SWEET POTATOES with CILANTRO BLACK BEANS

Makes 4 Servings

½ cup salsa

¼ cup frozen corn

1 15 ounces can black beans, rinsed and drained

#### INGREDIENTS

- 4 medium sweet potatoes 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 small sweet red pepper, chopped
- 2 green onions, chopped
- 2 tablespoons lime juice
- 1 tablespoon creamy peanut butter
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- ¼ teaspoon garlic salt
- ¼ cup minced fresh cilantro
- Optional: Additional minced fresh cilantro

#### **INSTRUCTIONS**

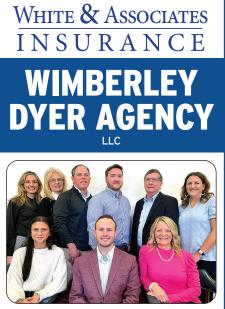
- 1. Scrub sweet potatoes; pierce several times with a fork. Microwave on high 6-8 minutes or until tender, turning once.
- 2. In a large skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. Add pepper and green onions and stir 3-4 minutes or cook until tender. Stir in beans, salsa, corn, lime juice, peanut butter, cumin and garlic salt and heat through. Stir in cilantro.
- 3. With a sharp knife, cut an "X" in each sweet potato. Fluff pulp with a fork. Spoon bean mixture over potatoes. Sprinkle with additional cilantro.



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#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### **ONGOING EVENTS**

**Come Play Inside** – The **Paris Civ**ic **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.

**Get Artsy** – Learn to play an instrument, sing, paint, create pottery and more at the **Paris Academy for the Arts**. For more information on classes, visit schoolforarts.org.

Latest Films – Enjoy six screens and the latest movie releases at the **Parisian Theatre** on Jim Adams Drive. Info line is 731-642-7171.

Learn about your health – Henry County Medical Center offers FREE monthly seminars/screenings including Cardiac Rehab Nutrition, Shopping Smart, Joint Replacement, Chronic Disease Management, Childbirth, Medicare and more. Participants must pre-register at 731-644-3463 or www.hcmc-tn.org.

**Eiffel Tower Park**– Plan an afternoon of fun with the pickleball courts, Blue Cross/Blue Shield play area, hiking trails and so much more.

Need A Good Book To Read? – Head over to the W.G. Rhea Public Library. You can find something to read, check out a DVD, or find something cool for the kiddos to do. Get ready for the summer Reading Program! For more information, call 731-642-1702.

**Let's Go Fishin**'– The **Paris Landing Marina** has lots of fishing tournaments coming up! Grab a pole and head out to beautiful Kentucky Lake. For more information, call 731-641-4474.

#### \* MARCH \*

MARCH 17– Happy St. Patrick's Day!

MARCH 23 – Hang out where the weirdos are! Mythical March Market will be held at the fairground's Enoch Building, 11 am-6 pm. This event will feature local artists and creators. Food and drink will be available.

MARCH 23 – Head over to the Krider Performing Arts Center for a night of laughter. Comedian Killer Beaz will perform at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$27-\$55. For more information, call 731-644-2517.

#### MARCH 24 - Palm Sunday

MARCH 25-29- Holy Week Services are held each day at noon at a local church. Brief services are followed by a light lunch. For more information, call 731-642-8445 or 731-642-5074.

MARCH 25-29- Spring Break in Henry County and the PSSD school systems! School's out so make the most of it. Visit our parks or spend the day at the lake hiking or boating.

MARCH 28 – Maudy Thursday. Experience Jesus' last meal through the eyes of each of His disciples during a live production of **The Living Last Supper** at Paris First United Methodist Church at 6 pm in the sanctuary. Call 731-642-4764 for information.

#### MARCH 29- Good Friday!

MARCH 31 – Happy Easter! Good news, He is risen!

MARCH 31– Easter Sunrise Service is on the front lawn of First United Methodist Church with breakfast to follow. Traditional services in sanctuary at 11 am. Call 731-642-4764.

#### \* APRIL \*

**APRIL 4** – Lie down, give blood, eat a snack, save a life. **Lifeline Bloodmobile** is at First United Methodist Church from Noon-6 pm.

APRIL 5 – Rock Steady Boxing Program will celebrate their anniversary and Parkinson's Awareness Month by hosting a benefit lunch at the IGA parking lot, 10:30 am-2 pm. Proceeds go back to RSBP for class improvements. For more information, visit their Facebook page.

**APRIL 6– The Creedance Coolwater Revue** is a tribute band with stellar singers from Branson and will be playing at KPAC starting at 7 pm. Tickets are \$27-\$33. For more information, call 731-644-2517.

**APRIL 7– KPAC** will host some of the areas finest musicians under the direction of Michael Holden for an afternoon of **Big Band Classics** at 2:30 pm. Advance tickets can be bought at Jack's Java or the Iron Place for \$8, at the door \$10. For more information, call 731-644-2517.

**APRIL 7- 24** - Paris Henry County Arts Council presents the **38th Artist Showcase** at W.G. Rhea Library. Admission is free. For entry info, visit phcarts.com. Call 731-642-3955 for additional information.

**APRIL 14** – **KPAC** presents the movies **Steadfast Country Christmas/ Blood River Reckoning** double feature starting at 2 pm. Filmed locally using much local talent, admission is \$20 for adults and \$15 for youth and includes either or both movies. For more information, call 731-644-2517.

#### April 20-28 - World's Biggest Fish

**Fry** events. See schedule on the inside back cover! Don't forget to hug those hard-working Jaycees!

**APRIL 20** – The **World's Biggest Fish Fry 5K Hushpuppy Dash** is at 8 am at Henry County High School. Register at 7 am; entry fee \$20 or \$15 if pre-registered. Call 731-644-1143. See complete Calendar of Events on the inside back cover of magazine.

**APRIL 20** – Crash! **Henry County Fairgrounds** is the happenin' place with a **Demolition Derby** at 7pm.

**APRIL 20 – Carl Perkins Center Cast-N-Blast Fishing/Hunting Event** takes place at the Paris Landing State Park Marina. For more information, call 731-642-8455.

**APRIL 20 – Paris Academy for the Arts** will have a benefit concert featuring Paris native **Sammy Goldstein** in the Ray Harding Lunchroom. His fun, cabaret-style performace will be a night to remeber. Show begins at 7 pm with reception to follow. Limited seating. Tickets \$25 each and can be online at www.schoolforarts.org. Call 731-642-3411 for more information.

**APRIL 24** – We can't work without them! It's **Administrative Professional's Day**.

**APRIL 24** – Fish, fish and more fish! The all-you-can-eat **FISH TENT OPENS** at the Henry County Fairgrounds from 5-9 pm. After you eat, head over and check out the carnival!

**APRIL 26- No School!** PSSD and Henry County Schools are closed to celebrate the World's Biggest Fish Fry. Parade starts at 10:00 am.

**APRIL 26-27** – Don't miss the **Rodeo** action at the Henry County Fairgrounds each night at 7:30 pm.

**APRIL 27** – **KPAC** presents **The Best of Motown** at 7 pm with all the Temptations greatest hits. Tickets range from \$27-\$33. For more information, call 731-644-2517. **APRIL 27** – **Small Fry Parade** at 10 am in beautiful Downtown Paris, followed immediately by the funfilled **Catfish Races** at 11 am on the courthouse lawn.

### 😤 MAY 😤

**MAY 2** – Help save a life today! Stop by First United Methodist Church and visit the **Lifeline Bloodmobile** from Noon-6 pm.

#### MAY 2- National Day of Prayer

MAY 4 – And they's off! This year's 2nd Annual Athena Delphian Club Derby Watch Party will be at the Paris Country Club with the fun beginning at 4 pm with food, and of course, a mint julep. So, ladies put on those big, beautiful hats, grab your guy, and watch the Kentucky Derby. Everyone is welcome. Tickets are on sale for \$45 or \$75 per couple and are available from any Delphian member. For more information, call Traci at The Iron Place 731-644-7500.

#### MAY 5-22- The 32nd Photo Show-

**case** will be held at the Rhea Public Library. Admission is free for all. For entry info, visit phcarts.com. Call 731-642-3955 for additional information.

MAY 6-10 – Thank a teacher during Teacher Appreciation Week.

MAY 12 – Remember your Mom! It's Mother's Day.

MAY 17 – HCHS graduation. Congratulations to the Class of '24! For more information, call 731-642-5232. MAY 21 – Summer Break is here! It's the last day of school for the PSSD kids. Abbreviated day for everyone in the Henry County school system.

MAY 25 – 70's tribute band 8 Track! will be back at The Breakers. Check The Breakers Facebook page for more information or call 731-232-8399.

**MAY 27** – **Memorial Day!** Be sure and attend the various scheduled events for our heroes around town. For information, call 731-642-3431.

MAY 31 – The Breakers will feature The Randall French Band, 7:30- 10:30 pm. Check The Breakers Facebook page for entertainment information or call 731-232-8399.



JUNE 1- PARIS! In the Summer is out! Visit MyParisMagazine.com for distribution locations.

**JUNE 1** – **Tennessee River Jam** returns to the main stage in Downtown Paris! See story on page 22 for more event information.

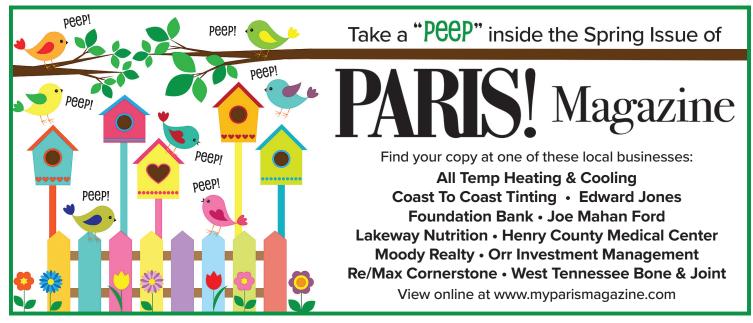
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#### **SATURDAY, APRIL 20**

**5K HUSHPUPPY DASH** 7 am registration ..... 8 am start .....HC Fairgrounds

CAR & BIKE SHOW/CRUISE IN ...8 am-4 pm...KPAC Volunteer Drive

DEMOLITION DERBY ......7 pm ..... HC Fairgrounds





#### MONDAY, APRIL 22 STREET DANCE ...7-9 pm... Downtown Paris

#### **TUESDAY, APRIL 23**





#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24 FISH TENT All-You-Can- Eat ... 5 -9 pm ......HC Fairgrounds CARNIVAL.................5 pm-Midnight.....HC Fairgrounds





#### **THURSDAY, APRIL 25**

ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW	5 - 8:30 pm	. Enoch Bldg
FISH TENT	11 am - 9 pmHC	Fairgrounds
CARNIVAL	5 -11 pmHC	Fairgrounds





#### FRIDAY, APRIL 26

ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW	10 am - 8:30 pm	Enoch Bldg
GRAND PARADE	10 am	E. Wood Street
FISH TENT		mHC Fairgrounds
CARNIVAL	11 am - Midnight 🔒	HC Fairgrounds
BULLS & BARRELS SHOWD	OWN 7:30	pmFairgrounds



#### SATURDAY, APRIL 27

ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW 10 am - 8:30 pm Enoch Bldg
SMALL FRY PARADE10 am Downtown Paris
BILL WILLIAMS CATFISH RACES 11 am Downtown Paris
JUNIOR FISHING RODEO11 am - 1 pm Williams Lake
CARNIVALFairgrounds
FISH TENTFairgrounds
BULLS & BARRELS SHOWDOWN 7:30 pmFairgrounds

#### **SUNDAY, APRIL 28**

CARNIVAL.....Fairgrounds

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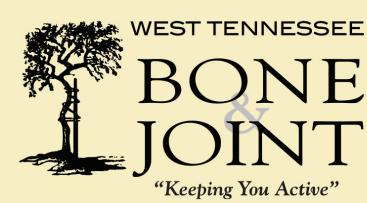
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