

# COLLIERVILLE

## LIVING

OCTOBER 2022



*Unconditional Love*  
WITH THE  
**OVERTON FAMILY**

PHOTO BY  
VICTOR MURPHEY,  
MIDNIGHT STAR

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# COLLIERVILLE LIVING

## MEET OUR PUBLICATION TEAM!



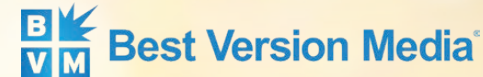
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Emily Clemmer  
Content Coordinator



Karla Bailey  
Graphic Designer



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## Letter to Residents

Can you believe it's already October? This year seems to be flying by. Maybe it's because we have been so busy! This month, I'd like to welcome SEVERAL new sponsors to *Collierville Living Magazine!* With current events unfolding the way they have been, everyone is more concerned about their personal safety, and the safety of their loved ones. Our newest partner, *Tactical Guns & Gear*, wants you to know they have your back with the latest self-defense gear in a safe, non-threatening atmosphere. I'm also proud to announce a new partnership with *Crowe Services!* Richard Crowe is our new HVAC & Plumbing Expert Contributor! Now, when the air goes out or the drain gets clogged, Collierville has a reliable local business partner to lean on.

*ShelfGenie* joins our family of sponsors, offering custom glide-out shelving and organization for your kitchen, bathroom, and pantries. Their free 3-D design helps you envision your life, organized! *HOTWORX* is our newest fitness studio partner, with high-tech infrared saunas, hot yoga, hot pilates, hot cycle, and more! Readers will be thrilled knowing they can get a full workout in just 15 minutes! *Northwest Mississippi Community College's* Senatobia campus is working with us to promote its NEW Performing Arts Center! This Spring, head to their campus for upcoming celebrity concerts, inspiring theatre, renowned lectures, and classic films. We're also working with *St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School*. They have so much to offer, like Project Lead the Way; a powerful STEM feeder program for top-area high schools.

People's relationships with their doctors are important. Start building your new healthcare team with *Ideal Structural Health* - which now proudly offers Primary Care, thanks to their newest team member: **Dr. Annette Caple**, Ph.D., DNP, FNP-BC, AGACNP-BC, ADM.

We are also humbled to be endorsed by many reputable organizations now, like the Collierville Police Department, The VFW, the Collierville Animal Shelter, and The Make-A-Wish Foundation of the Midlands! I encourage everyone to use their gifts to uplift others and help our Collierville Community become the Best Version of itself. Thank you for your support, and we hope you enjoy this month's incredible lineup!

*"Anxiety weighs down the heart, but a kind word cheers it up."*  
- Proverbs 12:25

Cheers!

PUBLISHER

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# Unconditional Love WITH THE OVERTON FAMILY

STORY BY EMILY CLEMMER | PHOTOS PROVIDED BY JASON & KEATON OVERTON



Love. It can have a multitude of definitions and emotions. It can mean a strong-like desire and deep respect for someone or something. But, it's more than just a feeling of butterflies in your stomach. It's more than an intense feeling of joy and comfort. True love is unconditional. It's sacrificial. The most profound, purest definition of love stems from the Greek word, Agape, further defined as a selfless love for one another. Like a parent's love for their child, agape love requires faithfulness, commitment, and sacrifice without expecting anything in return.

This love is true for Jason and Keaton Overton. They're familiar faces around town, and if you have had the pleasure to meet either of them, you'd know what agape love means. Their act of love is transparent throughout their lives, their work, their service, and their relationship with each other and their family and friends.

Jason is a mortgage loan officer with Patriot Bank Mortgage in Collierville. He has been in the mortgage field since 2018. Jason is experienced with the ever-changing market conditions, and mortgage programs change frequently. Are dedicated to his customers by providing quick and accurate financial advice. His favorite part about his job is working with and helping families through their most significant investment.

Keaton is a physical therapist with Campbell Clinic and has worked there for four years of her career. She is credentialed as a licensed physical therapist and certified licensed athletic trainer. She enjoys meeting and working with so many patients from the Collierville community.

The Overtons are initially from Bolivar, Tennessee. "Jason and I grew up together. We have known each other since daycare. In middle school, our relationship began, but it wasn't until college that our partnership, faithfulness, and love developed," Keaton shared. The couple was married on June 20, 2015, for seven years.

Both enjoy a little healthy competition. Jason and Keaton played sports at the collegiate level. Keaton played softball, and Jason played baseball. They were both pitchers and position players throughout their athletic careers. "We hope to continue to participate in



sports through coaching our children in whatever interest they may have," Keaton said. When time allows, Jason likes to spend time duck hunting in the winter months and golfing on lovely days. Keaton enjoys staying active and working out. Most of their attention lately has been committed to their three children.

After three years of marriage, Jason and Keaton desired to grow their family. "It was a very challenging and exhausting road. As we began the process, we always knew adoption would be an option if we could not have biological children. However, in July 2019, we knew adoption was no longer only an option, but our first choice," the couple shared. "Jason and I were visiting my sister and brother-in-law in Washington D.C. While there; we attended a Hillsong United concert. At one moment during the show, the lead singer began to speak about what God had laid on his heart. Over and over, I kept hearing the word "surrender, surrender." At that moment, I knew exactly what God was asking me to pursue. Little did I know that God was also speaking to Jason. Immediately after the concert, he said, "Let's adopt." If that wasn't clear enough, God reiterated His will for us during the Sunday service we attended the following morning. That weekend we decided to walk in obedience to God's calling for our life. We believe adoption is a beautiful picture of the gospel and how we are all children adopted into the kingdom of God through sacrificial love."

"Fast forward three years later, we had been working with an adoption agency. Due to various circumstances, we were still waiting for the child God had created for our family. In May of 2021, we were contacted by our social worker regarding

a family looking for parents for their grandchildren. Jason and I decided to pray for God's direction and guidance over the situation. We felt God asking us to continue on this unexpected path as we prayed. We continued to pray that the door would be closed if this was not meant for us. We know God prepared every step as we walked this road because the process was smooth, from meeting the biological grandparents to finalizing our adoption."

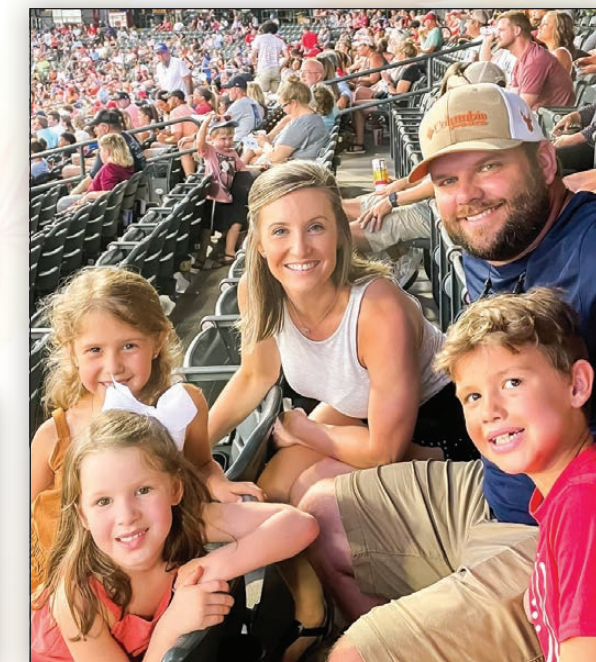
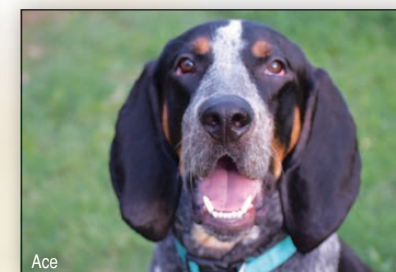
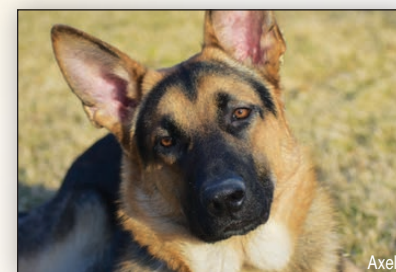
The Overtons are now a family of five navigating this life together. Abel is eight and in third grade. Bella is seven and in second grade. And, Bryleigh is five and started Kindergarten this year. All three kids attend Sycamore Elementary School. "We are learning and growing daily, and we will forever be thankful for God's provision and blessings over our life. We now truly know "it takes a village." From our families, church family, and coworkers, we have been given overwhelming love and support throughout every step of this journey."

Collierville First Baptist Church is where the Overtons find community. They enjoy fellowship time with their Connection Group, including Sunday Suppers, after-church picnics, and celebrations for Baptisms, Christmas, Easter, and other significant events. They are active in participating in community outreach and service through the church. Backyard Kids' Club is always a favorite for the Overton crew. "Our church has truly become a part of our family. We are thankful God provided such great friendships and support since moving to the Collierville area in 2016."

Their jobs also give Jason and Keaton opportunities for community involvement. They've enjoyed participating in the Forrest Spence 5K, golf tournaments, and Main Street Collierville Concert Series.

The Overton kids are involved in a lot of activities! Abel just completed his first baseball season, where his team placed first during the regular and postseason seasons. He loved every minute of it. Abel went to a week of summer camp through the church, which quickly became his favorite summer memory. He is playing flag football in Collierville this fall. His favorite subject in school is math. Bella enjoyed her time in gymnastics this past spring and is looking forward to trying basketball this fall through the church. In the meantime, she will be dancing at a local dance studio in Collierville. She is very artistic and loves to doodle. Her favorite subject besides art is reading and language arts. Bryleigh loves all things girly. She will also complete dance through the local dance studio. She enjoys tapping the most.

The Overton family is not complete without their two dogs. Axel (6) is a German Shepherd and the protector of their home. Ace (4) is a Bluetick Hound and is their sweet cuddler. "We all enjoy playing outside, except when they accidentally puncture a ball when trying to play with us. They are often a source of comfort and laughter for us all. Most of all, they love us unconditionally."



# Call an Expert!

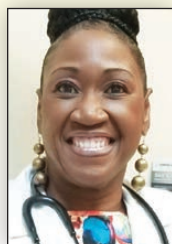
Our Expert Contributors consistently provide helpful content to earn your trust. Support local, and contact one of our Experts for the best service, support, and personal attention in Collierville. We are looking for new Experts in multiple industries; call or email Hayes Hora to learn more: (901) 604-9731 - [hhora@bestversionmedia.com](mailto:hhora@bestversionmedia.com).



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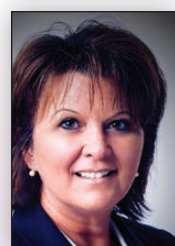
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## 2022 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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6:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
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**CHUCKLE'S COMEDY HOUSE**  
10/6 Ambrose Jones III

**MALCO THEATERS, COMING SOON...**

10/7 Amsterdam  
10/7 Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile  
10/7 Tar  
10/7 Till  
10/14 Call Jane  
10/14 Halloween Ends  
10/21 Black Adam  
10/21 Ticket to Paradise  
10/28 Prey for the Devil

**MID-SOUTH ICE HOUSE**  
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**GERMANTOWN PERFORMING ARTS CENTER (GPAC)**  
Duncan Williams Performance Hall  
10/1 An Evening with Jessica Vosk  
10/7 Old Crowe Medicine Show  
10/8 Mavis Staples  
10/15 Joey Alexander  
10/19 An Evening with David Sedaris  
10/21 School Matine: Terrance Simien's Creole4Kidz!  
10/22 Terrance Simien & The Zydeco Experience  
10/28 Jazz in the Box: The Verve Jazz Ensemble

**GERMANTOWN PERFORMING ARTS CENTER (GPAC)**  
The Grove

10/6 Susan Marshall  
10/13 Dale Watson  
10/20 Cyrena Wages  
10/27 Bill Hurd: An Evening of Jazz

**FEDEX FORUM**  
10/8 John Mulaney: From Scratch Tour  
10/16 Mary J. Blige  
10/21 Kevin Hart: Reality Check Tour

**AUTOZONE PARK**  
10/5 Memphis 901 FC vs Rio Grande Valley FC  
10/9 Memphis 901 FC vs New York Red Bulls II

**MEMPHIS BOTANIC GARDEN**  
10/15 The Memphis Food & Wine Festival  
10/20 Live at the Garden: Chicago  
10/29 Halloween Hike

**THE ORPHEUM**  
10/11-16 Pretty Woman (Touring)  
10/20 National Civil Rights Museum 2022 Freedom Award  
10/28-30 Dracula

**GRACELAND**  
10/6 "Weird Al" Yankovic  
10/7 Postmodern Jukebox  
10/10 Wallows  
10/21 Phillip Phillips  
10/28 General Hospital Fan Celebration  
10/29 Rick Springfield

**CANNON CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS**  
10/8 Southern Soul Music Fest  
10/23 Aaron Lewis

**MUSEUM OF SCIENCE & HISTORY (MoSH)**  
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\*Check moshmemphis.com for showtimes and details  
10/2 Family Fun Fish Fry, Lichterman Nature Center  
10/10-14 Fall Break Camp, Lichterman Nature Center  
10/22 STEAMfest, Pink Palace  
**AGRICENTER & SHOWPLACE ARENA**  
10/7-9 Mistletoe Merchants  
10/14-15 The Brotherhood Showcase  
10/21-23 Holiday Market



### OCTOBER ACTIVITIES

10/3-7 St. George's Fall Break  
10/10-14 Collierville Schools & Briarcrest Fall Break  
10/15 Memphis Brewfest, Simmons Bank Liberty Stadium  
10/20-22 Descendants The Musical, Briarcrest Christian School  
10/22 Race for the Ville 5k Glow Run, WCMS  
10/22 Cooper Young Brewfest  
10/22-23 River Arts Fest, Downtown Memphis  
10/28 Friday Flicks: Hocus Pocus, Carriage Crossing

### COLLIERVILLE HISTORIC TOWN SQUARE

10/6 Main Street Concert Series: Pam and Terry  
10/20 Main Street Concert Series: Southbound  
10/21 Scare on the Square  
10/22 Shakespeare's Macbeth on Town Square  
Every Friday Night Bluegrass String Jam  
Every Thursday Night Collierville Cruise Night

### COLLIERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

10/1 Tournament of Champions, Marching Band Competition  
10/5 Women's Soccer vs. Houston High School  
10/28 Varsity Football vs. Arlington High School

### LOCAL PUMPKIN PATCHES

Priddy Farms - 4595 N Germantown Pkwy, Arlington, TN  
Tom's Farm - 1665 Murrell Rd, Rossville, TN  
Cedar Hill Farm - 8 Love Road, Hernando, MS

### MORTON MUSEUM OF COLLIERVILLE HISTORY

10/1 10:30am - Public Architecture Tour  
10/7 10:30am - Preschool Story Time  
10/11-15 Hands-On Fall Break Activities  
10/14 10:30am - Preschool Story Time  
10/15 11am - Artist Talk - Jose Valverde  
10/18 6:30pm - Evening Concert Series - Luna Nova  
10/20 12pm - Lunch & Learn  
10/21 10:30am - Preschool Story Time  
10/25 2pm - 'Friends of the Museum' Book Club  
10/28 10:30am - Preschool Story Time

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Crowe Services takes pride in taking care of the customer and giving back to the community. "We are partnered with St. Jude, and every time a customer purchases an installation, we donate a portion to the Children's Research Hospital," says Richard. "St. Jude does such amazing things, and we wanted to find a way to help and give back to the wonderful work they do there."

Crowe Services employs licensed contractors and specialists to ensure your HVAC equipment runs smoothly all year long. They are



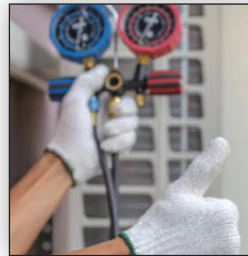
STORY BY EMILY CLEMMER  
PHOTOS BY CAITLIN BELISARIO

available to assist you even in an emergency. However, preventative maintenance reduces the chances for emergency services and allows your system to run at peak efficiency at all times.

"I get to work with an amazing group of people. We are a unique company where everyone is very close," Richard says. "We are truly like family here. The people here with me now make every day fun and enjoyable, and I am blessed to have them."

Richard was born and raised in Memphis, Tennessee. "I have an amazing wife and three beautiful boys. We live here in Collierville, Tennessee, and love the community." Richard Crowe is a member of the Collierville Chamber of Commerce, and the Collierville chapter of BNI Trusted Advisors. He is a proud supporter of Collierville Elementary, Middle, and High schools.

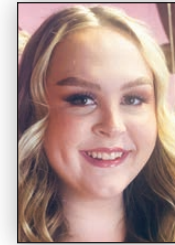
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**EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: REBECCA SAVAGE**

**THE COLOR EXPERT!**

GUEST CONTRIBUTOR, REBECCA SAVAGE  
PHOTOS BY BRIANA KESSLER



My name is Rebecca Savage, and I've been a cosmetologist for five years, but I've had a passion for beauty since I was in 6th grade. Growing up, I always wanted to be a veterinarian. Once I reached middle school, I found the world of YouTube and fell in love with makeup. I have two cats, sushi and sakè; they are brothers. They are the light of my life and have helped me so much. I feel like everyone should feel beautiful in their skin. Customer service is essential to me, and I want everyone to leave with a smile.

I have a passion for all things beauty! I love everything in this industry. The most rewarding part about my job is seeing how much more confident people are after leaving my chair. My number one philosophy behind my business is to help people realize that they were born to stand out and to stop trying to fit in. It's easy to slip into society's beauty standards and lose yourself in it all. When people sit in my chair, I give them the experience to remember. My room at Midnight Star Collierville is unique and is different from any salon space in the mid-south. I love being able to be my genuine self and share my passion simultaneously.

My parents are my biggest inspiration. They have given up everything for my sister and me. We have always been shown the most compassion, and they've always supported my dreams. One of the most exciting things I do at the salon is when I'm able to do vivid hair colors! I love being able to let my creativity take control. I got to give Mrs. Amy beautiful sunset hair; she loved every second of it. I like to draw and paint in my free time so being able to apply vivid colors is a way to incorporate art into hair! I love when a client comes in and gives me a challenge! Seeing it all come together at the end is one of the most rewarding and exciting things!

I think one of my favorite things I've ever been told is something my Mimi always said, "pretty is, as pretty does" We can always be beautiful on the outside. We can get our nails, hair, makeup, and all the cosmetic procedures we want, but if our actions and personalities are ugly, we aren't pretty. No matter where you go or what you do, make sure your personality is the prettiest thing about you. Our looks on the outside will always fade, but our kindness will always remain. I've never felt more blessed to be able to work at Midnight Star Collierville. I have the most incredible team behind me, and they support me in all my endeavors. I can't wait to see not only myself grow but our team as well. Schedule your appointment online: [midnightstarcollieville.com](http://midnightstarcollieville.com) or call (901) 286-4285.



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# VAMPIRE PENGUIN OPENING IN COLLIERVILLE!

STORY BY HAYES HORA, PHOTOS BY KRISTA DURTSCHI



Vampire Penguin is a new dessert destination opening soon in Collierville beside Huey's on Poplar. They uniquely offer shaved ice and shaved snow desserts. The "Vampire Penguin" is a fictitious penguin & children's book character who lives in the North Pole. Vampire Penguin lives there because he is a vampire. His best friend is a walrus who believes he is a vampire (because of his tusks). Even with the chosen life of darkness and isolation and behind Vampire Penguin's calm eyes, he truly misses his family and longs to be with them, so he makes shaved snow to bring families and friends together.

Krista Durtschi and her sister, Kimberly Stewart, opened their frozen dessert spot, Vampire Penguin, at Silo Square in Southaven in January. Now they have a new location opening in Collierville. Their shaved snow is a hybrid between ice cream and shaved ice. Their shaved ice is unlike any you've tried. The texture is almost like ice cream! They claim that the proper technique and execution took a lot of trial and error. It's something new that Collierville will surely enjoy! Conjure your creation! Start by picking a snow flavor, choose your favorite toppings, finish it with flavored syrup and ENJOY!

**ANOTHER BEAUTIFUL SMILE!**  
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**BUSINESS PROFILE:  
HOTWORX COLLIERVILLE**

## BREAKIN' A SWEAT!

STORY & PHOTOS BY GUEST CONTRIBUTOR,  
KENNETH BURNETT



Hello Collierville! My name is Kenneth Burnett. I am a former Marine who served in Operation Desert Storm in Saudi Arabia. I have been with my high school sweetheart since I was 15 and have been married for 28 years. We have two kids: KJ - Cornell University, a sophomore Chemical Engineering major, and Sydney - Mississippi State University, a freshman Veterinary Medicine major. And we have Apollo, a rescue from the Fayette County Animal Shelter.

About ten years ago, I caught the fitness bug. As I began my transition, people started reaching out for help in their fitness journey. That ultimately led me to open a small personal training studio called Master Fit Club in the Bartlett area. When everything was shut down during the pandemic, I spotted a friend posting workout videos on social media. As it turns out, she was at a HOTWORX - one of the few gyms that remained open during the pandemic's peak due to the nature of its isolated saunas. When I started looking into HOTWORX, it was the perfect mix of fitness, technology, and service. I decided to open my very own location right here in Collierville.



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HOTWORX Collierville is special, and I'm not just saying that. We make it our mission to make our members feel like family. We are proud to be part of the Collierville community and look forward to getting to know all of your readers because there is something for everyone here - no matter the age or condition. After a HOTWORX session, you feel better. Words cannot describe it. You have to experience it to understand. When you sign up, any family member living in the same home gets 50% off their membership. Our Ambassador program provides members a month free when you refer a client. After your 10th referral, you get an entire year free! Get a FREE session or join online: [hotworx.net/studio/collierville](http://hotworx.net/studio/collierville) or call (901) 300-5550 for more information.

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# TEACHING CATHOLIC VIRTUE

BY GUEST CONTRIBUTOR, VICKIE TORRES



At St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School, each child flourishes in their unique ability to reach their full potential and excel academically now and into the future. Our passionate and dedicated staff, alongside your family, set the foundation for your child to succeed while living gospel values. With Project Lead the Way and dedicated STEM labs, our students develop the confidence and passion for learning to become critical thinkers, problem solvers, and effective communicators for a complex world.

Integrated into our curriculum is the Catholic virtue of serving others, with students volunteering to serve in our community and church. Students are encouraged to explore their artistic, spiritual, and physical talents and interests through our many clubs, art and music programs, and athletics. We are a co-educational U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon School of Excellence serving elementary and middle school, 2K through 8th grade.

Here we would like to add information about our service projects to share what we do for the community. Students of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School connect and show compassion to our community and church through service with countless hours volunteered each year. On October 4, our students celebrate the Feast Day of our patron saint, St. Francis of Assisi, by spending the entire day completing projects that impact a variety of people in the Memphis community. Our annual tradition begins with Mass and continues with a "Blessing of the Pets" ceremony. Afterward, the students at every grade level participate in activities that include making sandwiches for St. Mary's and St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchens, filling "Blessing Bags" for the Homeless, which are distributed by Catholic Charities, putting together tray favors for the VA hospital and Ave Maria Nursing Home, making handmade dog toys for local animal rescue groups, and collecting baby items for Birthright of Memphis. These works of service demonstrate to our students the impact they can make on the Memphis/Shelby County area and our world.

Various fun and exciting events are coming up at SFA this month. Along with celebrating our Feast Day on October 4, the students at SFA participate in Field Day on October 3. Students spend part of the day in fellowship, playing games, and participating in sporting challenges. On the 18th, we would love to see you at our Open House from 5 - 7 pm. Take a look at what makes SFA a great place to be. At the end of this month, we will host our all-adult evening fundraising event, "Best Bites - A Tailgate Soiree and Silent Auction under the Saturday Night Lights!" Join us on October 22 for football on the big screens, great local food, cold drinks, and a DJ.

Finally, SFA will host a family-fun Fall Trunk or Treat on Wednesday, October 26, beginning at 6 pm, along with our sister school, St. Benedict at Auburndale, on our joint campuses' parking lots. All these events highlight the spirit of family and community in a place where all can feel God's love.

Drawing families from more than 30 zip codes, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School welcomes students at any time of the academic year and accommodates all levels of learning.

## Letter to Residents,

We are honored to serve as chairpersons for the 2022-2023 St. Francis of Assisi School (SFA) Annual Fund. Family and friends of this distinguished student body are keenly aware of how vital a Catholic education is for our children. SFA is more than a school; it is a family that is WOVEN together through education and service.

We are the proud parents of Mia, who is now in fourth grade. Our niece, Sophia Sabino, also attends SFA and is in eighth grade. Bright young ladies began preschool at Lindenwood and continued their educational journeys at SFA in junior kindergarten. Our families looked for a school that fostered the same nurturing environment we left at Lindenwood. We sought a school where students are recognized for their talents and teachers know their students and families. We found all of this at SFA! The love Mia and Sophia have received, and the growth they have achieved at SFA are remarkable. Both are kind and caring honor roll students and student-athletes.

We were humbled by the dedication shown by SFA's staff and faculty during the pandemic. We saw these fantastic individuals come together to serve and uplift our children. Our school pulled out all the stops to offer our children stability and support during those uncertain times. Our SFA team worked tirelessly to bring students back to classroom learning safely. This provided our children with a familiar environment and emotional support that many needed while other schools remained closed or fully remote. Our children were able to continue their growth while much of our world was standing still. That level of commitment to our children's well-being is immeasurable.

SFA offers our students a holistic learning approach in the classroom and through programs, athletics, clubs, field trips, seasonal traditions, camps, and community service projects. We want to help SFA build the resources necessary to keep this environment overflowing with opportunities for our children. Last year, SFA launched a successful Annual Fund campaign and quickly converted those contributions into improvements for our school, some of which included: new playground turf, new water refill stations, new flooring and paint, STEM kits and science experiments, a new Catholic-based guidance curriculum and a St. Francis statute for our chapel. None of this would have been possible without the generous donations made by our SFA families.

While our children are enjoying all that was accomplished last year, there is still much to be done to keep SFA growing as the exceptional learning institution has proven itself. Future renovation projects include replacing playground equipment, campus safety equipment and training, technology upgrades for the school network, theater production funding, and campus landscaping, to name a few.

We want SFA to continue to be the caring and growth-oriented educational environment our children love. The faculty, staff, and students need our help, and there are many ways to play a part, whether with time or funding. Be on the lookout for more information on how you can contribute. No donation is too small. Every dollar and hour counts. Let's show SFA our support.

Sincerely,

The Mallard Family  
Will, Melisa & Mia



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**NEIGHBOR SPOTLIGHT: DAVID ALLEN, OWNER OF NBS FITNESS**

**EARNED, NOT GIVEN!**

STORY & PHOTOS BY GUEST CONTRIBUTOR, DAVID ALLEN



My name is David Allen. I grew up in Memphis and went to high school at ECS, where I graduated in 2008, before going to Delta State University to play football and get a degree in Exercise Science. I was a strength and conditioning coach at LSU for a short period before returning to Memphis. My wife, Jennifer Allen, and I have three children: James (4), Caleb (2), and Samantha (1). We moved to Collierville from Germantown in 2019 and love

being part of this community.

NBS Fitness is a fitness facility that provides guidance, accountability, and community to help people become the best version of themselves. The Ninja Gym is a youth-focused fitness facility that offers classes, camps, birthday parties, events, and a mobile course, and all focused on the sport of Ninja Warrior.

I opened up NBS Fitness in 2011 to respond to the commercial fitness industry's failure to improve people's health, fitness, and lives. We opened a second location in Collierville in 2022 as an opportunity to help positively impact the health and wellness of the Collierville community. The Ninja Gym is currently in the process of opening with a tentative date of winter 2022. It was inspired by my children's need and desire for active play without many indoor options in the area.

NBS Fitness: Health and fitness are vital for human flourishing. For people to realize their highest mental, emotional, spiritual, and social potential, their physical needs must be met first. The human soul suffers when the vessel it is housed in is not maintained. Thus, the negative consequences of failure, for whatever reason, to develop the health and fitness of the human body are felt and seen in areas beyond just the physical outward appearance. The effects extend beyond the individual and their friends, family, and society. Likewise, the positive impacts of actively pursuing personal health and fitness spread to those in our immediate social circle and beyond. Taking care of the body, we have been given is the appropriate response to our gift of life and the proper stewardship of the vehicle through which we impact the world. To do so is good. It is valuable and necessary, but it is not always easy.

While in Memphis filming his show Young Rock, Dwayne Johnson chose NBS Fitness Cordova as his training facility. He is one of the nicest people, and it was a pleasure working with him and his team.

The Ninja Gym: Our mission is to help the youth of all ages to develop a love of fitness and the discipline and determination to overcome obstacles both on the course and in life. We strive to provide a facility that is both kid and parent-friendly, a supportive and fun community, and coaching that is energetic and encouraging. Our goal is to make you say, "That was awesome!" We get to spend the best hour of our client's day with them and watch them grow as human beings.

We have a silly tradition at our Cordova facility where we try to scare each other as we come through the door. Over 11 years, the elaborate nature of some of the attempts has grown tremendously. We have a camera right by the door that captures every scary moment and gets shared with the staff. We are very serious about helping people reach their goals and just as serious about creating a culture that is fun to be around. I love my staff and my members. It's a family through and through.

I would encourage you to re-read the NBS Fitness mission statement. I've dedicated my life to helping people grow, improve, and become better versions of themselves. I want that for you, I want it for your children, and I want it for my community. The NBS Fitness and Ninja Gym combo is my life's purpose come to fruition, and I hope you'll be a part of it with me.

You can find more info, get in contact with us, and find our social media channels on our websites. [www.nbsfitness.net](http://www.nbsfitness.net) and [www.theninjagym.net](http://www.theninjagym.net). We'd love to meet you and learn more about how we can help.

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EXPERT CONTRIBUTOR: DR. ANNETTE CAPLE



*There's a Doctor*  
**IN THE HOUSE!**

BY HAYES HORA | PHOTO BY ANNETTE CAPLE

Dr. Annette Caple, DNP, FNP, BC, AGACNP, ADM, is a Family Nurse Practitioner and Primary Healthcare Provider in Collierville. She has a large and close family comprised of four siblings and many nieces and nephews. She attended Capella University in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and received a Ph.D./Doctor of Nursing degree in Nursing Practice Leadership in August 2015. She was inducted into the Capella University Nursing Honor Society and the Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society. These honors were achieved while she continued to perform her daily tasks as a medical professional and consistently maintained a 4.0 GPA while attending every University.

Dr. Caple shares, "I provide significant contributions to the medical profession. I enjoy the challenge of adhering to the standards of care, clinical guidelines, and evidence-based practices when treating and diagnosing different medical conditions. This includes providing quality care as well as educating the community. I am constantly researching evidence-based methods to assist patients with positive health outcomes. Regenerative medicine as preventative treatments began and evolved through my career in medical surgical and post-operative hospital units. I have experienced first-hand the debilitating effects of chronic pain, steroid use, and narcotics on patients' overall health and well-being. After witnessing Ideal Health Solution's impressive cutting-edge regenerative medicine therapy, I decided to join the team. I am incredibly proud of the Ideal Health Solution Code of Ethics's high standards concerning patient education, treatment eligibility, and quality of care."

Dr. Caple pays close attention to detail. She stays focused on the underlying cause of the issue, working to treat the cause instead of the symptoms. Her treatment plans are a whole-health approach and custom-made for each patient. Her primary goal is to make people feel better and take their lives back. Whether you need a sports physical, a sick visit, or a medical referral, schedule a visit with Dr. Caple and see how much she cares for you and your loved ones!

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**BUSINESS PROFILE:  
SHELF GENIE OF THE MIDSOUTH**

# ShelfGenie COMES TO THE MIDSOUTH!

BY HAYES HORA | PHOTOS BY CINDY WILLIAMS

consulting company over 20 years ago. As a project management and training consultant, I enjoyed learning about my client's needs, problem-solving, and creating the best solutions for them. My favorite topics always revolved around time management, productivity, and organization. I remember being "that student" in high school who had all my class notes combined in one tabbed, three-ring binder, while other students opened their lockers only to have all their contents come crashing out! As a Professional Organizer, I use that natural tendency to help others simplify their daily lives. ShelfGenie provides me with those same opportunities, and I love it so much!

We provide custom-designed access in every area of the home. Our customers love having a dream kitchen without replacing their cabinets or a dream pantry without the need to renovate."

As Cindy said, "We believe that ShelfGenie of the MidSouth is unique because of our amazing Designers and Installers! Our mission is to create unforgettable experiences through exceptional people and transformational solutions. We turn pain and frustration into joy and love! We want our customers to have an outstanding client experience. We look forward to helping each individual transform their cabinets and pantries with American-made glide-out shelving to improve how they live in their home."

ShelfGenie's solutions are genuinely custom-designed, measured, manufactured, and installed. The top three benefits for homeowners are greater accessibility, improved organization, and increased storage inside their kitchen cabinets, pantry, bath vanity, or other space.

*"Our clients are over-the-top thrilled with their ShelfGenie projects!"*



"From the consult to the install, I LOVED IT ALL!" - Review from Local Guide, Cindy Few.

ShelfGenie of the MidSouth offers free design consultations. Call (901) 610-5503 to schedule your consultation with one of their expert Designers, who will happily collaborate with you to create the best design for you and your home.



Local sisters Cindy Williams and Michelle Goin are happily working their magic together to help MidSouth homeowners love their kitchens again! They are the proud owners of ShelfGenie of the MidSouth, celebrating its 2nd anniversary this month.

You might be asking yourself, how did two gals from Millington, TN, get into the franchise business? "It's a funny story," says Michelle. "As a Professional Organizer, I am always looking for the best possible resources for my clients, which is how I found ShelfGenie. After learning about the company's 20-year reputation, and the high-quality ShelfGenie's custom solutions provide, I immediately became a Design Consultant. I was so impressed by the company, product, and what they do for their customer that I shared the opportunity with Cindy. I sent her a text telling her to check it out but quickly texted her again to say (jokingly), 'Never mind. ShelfGenie is not available in Memphis. Maybe you should start the local franchise!' Cindy conducted her research on ShelfGenie and loved it so much that she started ShelfGenie of the MidSouth months later."

Cindy and her husband, Mark, are the proud parents of two wonderful children. Their son, Lake (25), and his wife, Baylee, are currently stationed at Ft. Rucker, AL, where he is training with the Army to pilot Black Hawk helicopters for the MS National Guard. Cindy & Mark's daughter, Anna Claire (22), is currently a senior attending Palm Beach Atlantic University in Florida.

Michelle is happily married to her husband, Miguel, and they live on the west coast of Florida. She adds to the conversation, "Growing up in Millington, TN, I have spent most of my life in the Midsouth. Since moving to Florida over ten years ago, I've always come home regularly to visit my sweet family, so owning the local business with Cindy seemed like a natural fit. The best part is that when I travel to Memphis for home shows and other ShelfGenie events, I visit with my sister and our mom simultaneously. The best of both worlds! We come from a long line of entrepreneurs! My grandfather owned Goin's Shoe Repair shop; my dad owned The Browse Around antique shop; Cindy started her consignment clothing store, Designer Exchange, and I started my

**NEIGHBOR SPOTLIGHT: RITA BARTOLOME**



# My Psychic EXPERIENCE

BY HAYES HORA | PHOTOS BY RITA BARTOLOME

Rita Bartolome (49) is a Memphis-area nurse from the Philippines, currently residing in Bartlett. Rita has lived in the United States since 2000. She is a strong Catholic woman of faith and very open-minded. Rita was seeking answers when her Father passed away unexpectedly. She hadn't seen him in over six years due to the distance between them. Rita met DeeDee Goossens through a friend; DeeDee is a certified third-degree Reiki Master, a healing meditation counselor, and a gifted psychic.

Rita shares, "I wanted to communicate with my Dad and ensure he was okay. DeeDee performed a reading for me and held a mediumship session. The experience was charming because my Mother later confirmed things that were said, so I knew it was my Dad. It was amazing! DeeDee mentioned a particular name my Dad kept guiding her toward; Sophie. I have a co-worker named Sophie- DeeDee said it wasn't a co-worker but a family member. When I asked my Mother about Sophie later, I learned Sophie was my niece's daughter, and she is in Canada. I believe he was trying to tell me that he wanted to see Sophie. All of the things I experienced reaffirmed that it was real. Miss DeeDee told me my Dad is in a good place and is not upset with me. I was blaming myself for not being able to see him, and I wasn't there when he died, and this experience brought me the peace I was seeking. According to her, my Dad said he loves me and is very proud of me and that I shouldn't blame myself for anything.

Rita continues, "I always go to DeeDee whenever I have questions because her guidance always helps me process things and how to handle my emotions. DeeDee taught me how to meditate, which helps me de-stress and calms me down. There was one time when I lost my car keys and I had lost my spare. I couldn't find it anywhere. I



Rita & Cousin, Jhing Alvaro

texted Miss DeeDee and asked if she could help me find my car key. She advised me to sit down, take a deep breath, and call on my spiritual helpers to assist me in finding my keys. I closed my eyes and said a little prayer, and an hour later, I felt like it might be in a particular drawer, and sure enough, it was! It amazes me because every conversation with DeeDee always ends with positive results."



DeeDee Goossens

For information about psychic readings, reiki energy healing, and crystal jewelry, call or go online: (901) 517-1519, [DeeDeesDivineStudio.com](http://DeeDeesDivineStudio.com) (See ad on page 36).

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In 2005, Lana and Shawn Danko opened the iconic Memphis restaurant, Kooky Canuck. Shawn and I have been friends for several years, first meeting in 2014 during my Yellow Pages days. Shawn is from Montreal, Canada, and Lana is from Elgin, IL. For those wondering, Canuck is slang for Canadians.

Can you finish the 4lb Kookamonga Burger (12,387 calories) in under sixty minutes by yourself? You get the burger for free and your picture on the Wall of Fame if you can.

The Kookamonga Burger is 4lbs of fresh 80/20 ground chuck, 2 lbs of a custom-made hamburger bun, 1 1/2 lb of lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, onions, and cheese, 7 1/2 lbs total.

# THE KOOKAMONGA CHALLENGE!

A little heads up, the fries are optional. It takes between 20 and 40 minutes to cook the burger, depending on how you like it. To put this into context, burning the calories of one Kookamonga Burger takes 25 hours of high-impact aerobic exercise or a 17-hour stationary bike ride.

Adam Richman, who hosted the original Travel Channel show *Man vs. Food*, attempted the challenge in 2008, featured in

Season 1, Episode 2, where the food ultimately won.

Matt Stonie has the current record of 4 minutes and 43 seconds. Other well-known challenge winners include Joey Chestnut, Pat Bertoletti, Michelle Lesco, Badlands Booker, and Randy Santel (who has successfully beaten all three challenges).

Kooky Canuck is much more than burger challenges with outstanding dishes such as BBQ Eggrolls, Maple Sirloin, 34oz cocktails & beers, Halifax Donairs, Deep Dish Chocolate Chip Cookie, food, and fun for the entire family. Whether you are heading to downtown Memphis or Cordova, which will be reopening in the coming months, you certainly won't be leaving with an empty stomach.

For more information, check out their website

[kookycanuck.com](http://kookycanuck.com)



**EXPERT CONTRIBUTOR:  
TERRY COX, COX LAW OFFICE**



## MOVING IN THE IN-LAWS!

BY TERRY COX

If my mother-in-law moves into our house, how do we protect our interests? And hers? We have been thinking about questions that our clients commonly ask. Often an elder person needs to move into their child's home because the elder can no longer live independently. But there may not be room for everyone. The solution to the space crunch may be to build an addition to the child's home.

Assume that husband, whom we will call "Joe," and wife, whom we will call "Mary," live here in Collierville and that Mary's mother, whom we will call "Mom," is growing older and, correspondingly, is having greater difficulty affording the cost of living alone or feels challenged to care for herself without help. Mary and Joe would welcome Mom into their home, but they would need to build an addition to their home. The addition could contain a studio-type open room with a specially equipped bathroom. The addition would cost \$75,000.

Mom has her own home, which she can sell. The sale proceeds would provide Mom with the \$75,000 she would need to build the addition to



Joe and Mary's home. Mom, Joe, and Mary can agree with a contractor to perform the work. In exchange for the home improvement, Joe and Mary can execute a quitclaim deed that conveys a fractional interest in the house to Mom. Such a deed has special provisions crafted to provide several benefits to Mom, Joe, and Mary, as we shall see.

Here is how the fractional share is calculated. The house is worth \$300,000 before the work is performed. The addition will cause the house to be worth \$375,000. Therefore, the contribution that Mom makes to the resulting value of the home corresponds to twenty percent of that resulting value.

If Joe and Mary must move out of town in a couple of years because Joe is transferred to a new work location, the house can be sold by Joe, Mary, and Mom. Joe and Mary will receive eighty percent of the sale proceeds, and Mom will receive twenty percent. If the net sale proceeds are \$500,000, Joe and Mary will receive \$400,000 (eighty percent of the sale proceeds), and Mom will receive \$100,000 (twenty percent of the sale proceeds). Everyone shares proportionately in the profit.

We have structured transactions of this type for many of our clients with great results. This information is not offered as legal advice. It is merely food for thought. A qualified lawyer should only undertake the creation of legal documents and asset protection strategies.



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## GUEST CONTRIBUTOR: CHRISTIAN ALSIP ALSIP RACING & 901X

BY CHRISTIAN ALSIP | PHOTOS BY COLE THOMAS



My name is Christian Alsip, and I am 14 years old. My parents are Tom and Lyndsey Alsip. I have 3 Labrador retrievers, am a Collierville First Baptist Church member, and am in the 9th grade at Collierville High School. I play freshman football, and I pilot our Alsip Racing junior dragster. Our friends and sponsors are Wilson Floor Coverings, Smiths Plumbing Services, Franklin Automation, Fossett Paving, and Vaughan Oil Company. Alsip Racing was established in 2019 when I was looking for a sport with a competitive edge and no participation trophies. My dad and granddad have always been into the sport of racing and mechanics, and the two of them have fond memories of helping the NHRA 5-time Top Fuel World Champion Joe Amato at several races while my dad was growing up. Like them, I'm interested in mechanics, racing, welding, hunting, fishing, and other outdoor activities.

My car number is 901x, and we race at Holly Springs Motorsports Park in the IHRA Junior Dragster Summit Series Program. We are currently number one in the points standings with two races left. We are working hard to maintain that lead and finish the 2022 season as Track Champion. A goal we have been working towards for the past three seasons. My passion for motorsports is driven by the mechanical aspect, speed, and competition that comes with racing. Racing has a different dynamic than other sports. In racing, we have a driver (myself) and a crew chief (my dad), and we are the team. We win together, and we lose together. We are always elbow-to-elbow discussing our setup, tune, and how the car is reacting and running. A special bond

between us is hard to put into words. A win or a loss in this sport can come down to as little as a .001 margin of victory and can all be decided by less than one inch. We are racing a 1/8th mile (660ft) track in less than 8 seconds at over 83 miles per hour.

To be successful, the crew chief and I must be on point and better than the car next to me for that round. The excitement of drag racing is on a level all its own. I am filled with joy and excitement when I get to the finish line and see a win light come on. The feeling is brief because as soon as that win light comes on, I have to park the car, cool the motor off, and refuel. We check the data from the previous run, analyze the weather changes, and adjust the vehicle before the next round. Racing has taught me to work hard, be prepared, and stay humble in winning and losing.

We strive to keep God first at home and on track, treat others as we want to be treated, and put forth the best example by being the type of racer and sportsman we would like someone to be toward us. Our team Bible verse is Isaiah 41:10 - "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Even when racing and life gets tough, always remember that a person is not beaten when they get knocked down. Falling down is okay, as long as you pick yourself up and keep moving forward. Failures are lessons meant to make us better. Please follow us on **Facebook @AlsipRacing**, and our **YouTube Channel (Alsip Racing)** as we prepare to finish up the 2022 season and prepare for 2023. We appreciate your support!



Christian & Tom Alsip

EXPERT CONTRIBUTOR:  
TACTICAL GUNS & GEAR

# GUN SAFETY FUNDAMENTALS

STORY AND PHOTOS BY HAYES HORA



The first thing to address is whether or not you should own or carry a gun. Guns are tools, just like anything else you would buy for a specific purpose. Guns are a simple means of escalation when overwhelming force is brought against you. If people invade your home with guns, you don't stand much chance unless you can escalate your form of defense to match theirs. Some people's answer is "call the cops," which is logical until

you realize that you've called people with guns to come to protect you from people with guns. Assaultants won't wait for your 'help' to arrive- it needs to be there already, and you should be comfortable and adequately trained on how to use it.

## FOUR FUNDAMENTAL RULES OF GUN SAFETY:

### 1. All guns are always loaded.

Treating every firearm as if it were loaded makes you far less likely to have a negligent discharge.

### 2. Never point a gun at anything you are unwilling to destroy.

Understand that guns are not toys, and there is never



an appropriate situation for joking or horseplay.

### 3. Be aware of your target and what is beyond it.

A shooter is always responsible for the bullets fired, where they land, and everything affected in between.

### 4. Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are on the target.

A shooter's pointer finger should always be straight and flush with the gun's barrel, only moving inside the trigger guard when you effectively aim at your target. This safety precaution will prevent you from accidentally shooting yourself or an unintended target.

If you are considering buying a firearm, spend a Saturday taking a gun safety course. You will feel more comfortable once educated adequately about guns and gun safety. Check schedules and rates for several local providers, like Top Gun (901.949.4867), Range USA (901.272.4644), or the Mid-America Training Center (901.405.4817).

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CHEF SPOTLIGHT:  
BRUNO CAYETANO-CASTANEDA



## THE ART OF *Sushi*

STORY & PHOTOS BY HAYES HORA

The best Sushi in Collierville is made possible by the best Sushi Chefs! Meet Chef Bruno Cayetano-Castaneda (30), part-owner of the new SAKURA restaurant. Bruno was born and raised in Mexico and made his way to America for great new opportunities. He started working for Sakura in Germantown over 15 years ago and steadily became one of Sakura's most seasoned Sushi Chefs.

Bruno loves the creativity that sushi-making affords him. Dishes are beautifully made and colorful, like seeing art come to life for him. Bruno loves the spicy rolls more than anything. Chef Bruno currently lives in Bartlett. His wife is a stay-at-home mom, and he has two boys: Henry and Haden. Bruno loves to play soccer and basketball. He's a Grizzlies fan and recalls a fond memory of serving one of their players, Pau Gasol. Bruno shared, "He ordered so much sushi, I couldn't believe it. He ate it all. He is so tall just standing beside me!"

Bruno has learned much about sushi since he started working for Sakura. He prepared several different types of sushi for us to try. Did you know that sushi originated in Thailand? It happened by accident. Around the 5th century B.C., there was no refrigeration or a safe way to preserve fish. The natives would pack fish in rice and bury it shallowly in a rice paddy. The rice would naturally ferment and protect the fish, which would be dug up and eaten later. Sushi naturally became a fresh, natural ingredient laid atop a ball of rice.

Wasabi was used as an antibacterial component to prevent food-borne illness. All the wasabi that we have here is fake! Real wasabi comes from the wasabi root that only grows in rock riverbeds in Japan. The wasabi Americans are used to is a horseradish base with green food coloring added. It's still tasty, though! Ginger became a natural side served with sushi which supports healthy digestion and carries numerous other health benefits. The most common use of ginger is a pallet cleanser between different sushi bites. The next time you're in Sakura, ask Bruno for a sashimi platter or a sushi box sampler. My favorite rolls include the Joyce Roll, New Orleans Roll, The Alfredo Roll, and the Mardi Gras Roll. The portions are large, and the sauces & toppings create unique flavor profiles. Order online at [sakuramemphis.com](http://sakuramemphis.com) or call (901) 316-5638.



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SAY IT WITH DIAMONDS...

# Make-A-Wish®

## TRANSFORMING LIVES, ONE WISH AT A TIME

STORY BY EMILY CLEMMER  
PHOTOS BY CASSIE CHURCHILL

### LUKE'S WISH

Make-A-Wish Mid-South is a nonprofit organization that creates life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses. Children may wish to be a policeman for the day, attend a major sporting event, or go on a dream vacation. These wishes go beyond just the short-term emotional impacts on wish children. Instead, studies have shown that Make-A-Wish improves the child's overall well-being and significantly improves the child's quality of life. A wish can provide kids and their families the strength to fight against their illness, hope when their battle seems impossible, and encouragement to push through with perseverance.

This is the story of Luke Churchill.

Luke was born on September 30, 2018 to Cassie and Dylan Churchill and big brother Tristan. As told by his mother, Luke was crying at home one day and pushing down on himself. When hours went by and nothing seemed to soothe him, she took him into LeBonheur Children's Hospital where they ran tests. The results showed a 6cm size tumor around his bladder and prostate that was pressing against his urethra. Luke was diagnosed with Stage 3 Rhabdomyosarcoma of the prostate and bladder. Luke was only 18 months at the time.

Luke was immediately sent to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital for his first round of chemotherapy treatment. He stayed inpatient at St. Jude for his first two weeks. Treatments included 16 months of chemotherapy and one round of radiation that lasted six weeks. "Luke was always so happy, and he never really complained about his treatments," Cassie said. "It became so routine. He got to where he wouldn't cry when nurses had to access his port. "We'd call the medicine "Buddy Juice" and the alcohol wipes to clean the port were puppy dog licks. He'd say the dog is licking me!" He was so resilient during treatments." Every weekday for a period of six weeks, Luke would have to leave his home in Byhalia, Mississippi at 6:00 a.m. to get to St. Jude for treatment by 7 a.m. He had to be sedated for his radiation treatments. Luke's brother, Tristan, was Luke's biggest supporter

and comic relief. When Luke started to lose his hair, Tristan volunteered to shave his head first so Luke would not be scared.

Luke's last treatment date was last September! He is now in remission! Luke was able to be cured without surgery as the treatments killed his tumor. He will continue to follow-up every three months.

"One of the doctors at St. Jude recommended that we apply to Make-A-Wish, so I went to [Wish.org] and applied," Cassie shares. We stayed in communication with Make-A-Wish about things Luke enjoys. We go to the lake a lot, and he likes to swim, dig in the sand, and fish.

Luke also loves Blippi, [a children's educational sensation on YouTube]. When Make-A-Wish told us they were granting us a wish to go to the beach, since Luke had never seen the ocean, they gave us some options. We chose Navarre Beach, Florida as it is a little less touristy and a little more private than some of the other nearby beaches."

The Wish Reveal Day was one of Luke's best days ever. Students at West Collierville Middle School (WCMS) had raised money for Make-A-Wish and were able to sponsor Luke's wish. So, his wish reveal was at the school. The students lined up outside of the school as Luke paraded around to the chants of the student's cheering him on. "Wow! Why are they saying MY name?!", Luke asked his mom.

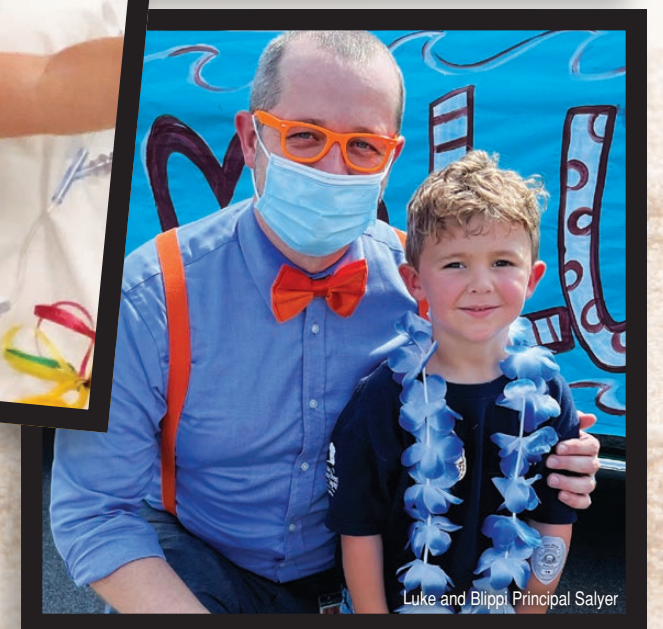


He thought he was a superstar! The kids at the school made signs that read things like, "Ride the Waves" and "West Collierville Loves You!" At the end of the parade, Luke was presented with beach themed cupcakes and beach themed gifts such as beach buckets and shovels, floats, swimsuits, and beach towels. The principal of WCMS, Mr. Tyler Salyer, dressed up as Blippi. "Blippi is here!" Luke was just as excited or more to see Blippi live in person! The Collierville Police Department arrived on their motorcycles, saluted Luke with honor, and gave him a badge. Luke was living one of his best moments as he sat atop his father's

shoulders, waving at everybody, and smiling ear to ear.

"We thank God for healing our little Luke everyday. We're so grateful to have had so many prayer warriors throughout this time following us on this journey. The prayers are what gave us the strength to continue each day. We thank everyone at St. Jude for their treatments and gentle care for Luke. And, we thank Make-A-Wish for granting us this trip to the beach to enjoy our time as a family without any worries," Cassie acknowledged. "Neither of the boys, nor Dylan, have ever seen the ocean so it's going to be such an amazing experience for all of us and our little fighter definitely deserves it after how strong he was these past couple of years."

The Churchill family enjoyed a beach vacation September 4th through 11th. In addition to sandcastles, swimming, and boogie boarding, Make-A-Wish set up a fishing trip and dolphin excursion for Luke and his family to enjoy. They also spent a day at the aquarium so Luke could see sharks up close and encounter reptiles. "Make-A-Wish incorporated so many details of Luke's favorite things and personalized the whole experience just for him."



If you would like to learn more and get involved with the Make-A-Wish Foundation, visit: <https://wish.org/get-involved>.



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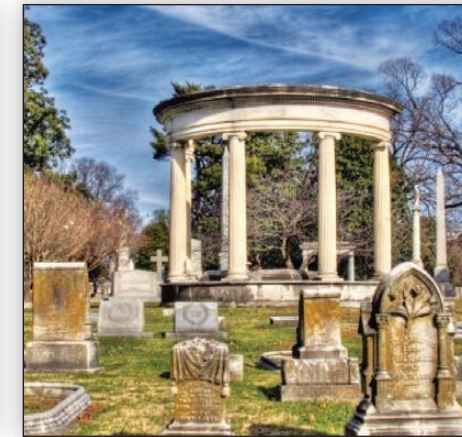
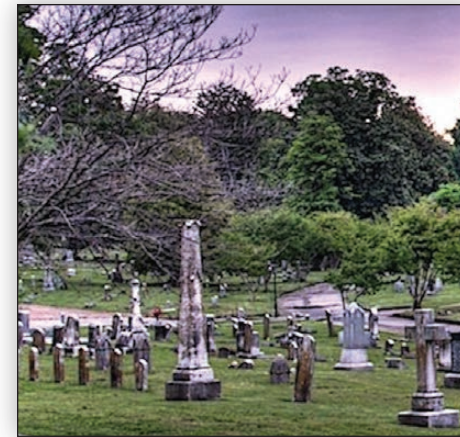
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## THE HISTORICAL ELMWOOD CEMETERY

BY HAYES HORA | PHOTOS BY DAVID MCCROSKY

Elmwood Cemetery is the most historic graveyard in the country. The dramatic Entry Bridge, Carpenter-Gothic Office Cottage, and 80-acre cemetery are all on the National Register of Historic Places. Elmwood is also an official Bird Sanctuary and Arboretum!

The Elmwood Cemetery was established in the South to provide a dignified and beautiful final resting place for those who have died. Over 50 individuals in Memphis envisioned a place where people could gather for picnics, social gatherings, and other family activities. In 1852, 50 individuals in Memphis committed to buying land and establishing a new cemetery. They could purchase the land and establish the cemetery about 2.5 miles from the town. It's a fun place to tour and a spooky destination to visit for Halloween. The graveyard features beautiful gardens and individual monuments that celebrate the life and death of those who have died. Over seventy thousand individuals are buried here, and there are fifteen thousand more spaces. The magnificent oak and magnolia trees, as well as the flowers and trees bordering the cemetery, are adorned with prominent individuals from Memphis history.

There are veterans from every war that the US has ever fought. There are prominent individuals from every culture and walk of life here. Some of the most prominent individuals in the cemetery include governors, senators, and mayors. It is a place that is full of history. Volunteering is a beautiful way to show your support for Elmwood Cemetery, the history of the site, and the stories of those who rest here.

Tour guides inspire a love of local history by guiding youth and adult educational tours of Elmwood Cemetery. Youth tours are scheduled between 9:00 am - 2:00 pm during the school week and last approximately two hours. Adult tours are occasionally scheduled for small private groups. Tour guides sign up for the times they are available to help lead. Tour script and training are provided by Elmwood staff. For volunteer & tour information, visit [elmwoodcemetery.org](http://elmwoodcemetery.org).



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## KID'S CAMP BACK AGAIN!

STORY & PHOTOS BY GUEST CONTRIBUTOR:  
NINA WINGFIELD, CAS DIRECTOR

Collierville Animal Shelter (CAS)

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### "Kindness and Compassion for Animals"

Fall Break 2022  
Kid's Camp

Hosted by the Collierville Animal Shelter & SPCA of Memphis

Fall Break Camp is a two-day, animal-themed day camp for kids ages 8-12. Kids spend time immersed in everything related to animals. Camp includes animal-related educational activities, including games, crafts, guest speakers, animal interactions, and more!

**Mon. & Tues., October 10th/11th**

9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

COST: \$60.00 each day

Ages 8 to 12 years

Kids Camp strives to teach children respect and compassion for the animals we share our world with. Camp sessions will be held at "Animal Adoption Center" at Carriage Crossing Shopping Center 4670 Merchants Park Circle Suite 616- Next door to Soccer USA.

Register at the Collierville Animal Shelter 603 E. South Street. Call for information at (901) 461-7722.

Here are some great pets available for adoption at the Collierville Animal Shelter. Go to [Collierville.petfinder.com](http://Collierville.petfinder.com) to see all our available cats and dogs ready for adoption.

### OCTOBER TIPS TO KEEP YOUR PETS SAFE:

1. Make sure Halloween costumes are comfortable for your pets. They should be able to walk and move normally. Keep them away from large crowds; they might be scared by the worn costumes.

2. Keep your pets up during the trick-or-treat hours. This keeps your pet safe and the little kids too. Outdoor dogs and cats should be put inside during this time.
3. Be aware of the extra candy and chocolate around your house, don't let your pets get into the treats!
4. Prepare your outdoor animals for the cold weather of the fall and winter months, with appropriate housing and water needs. Hydration is still essential during cooler weather.



Kitten's names in order, left to right:  
Little Pumpkin • Peach  
Tangerine • Nutmeg  
Clementine • Tiger

## ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: JOSE VALVERDE

# Art FROM THE Heart!

BY EMILY CLEMMER | PHOTOS BY JOSE VALVERDE



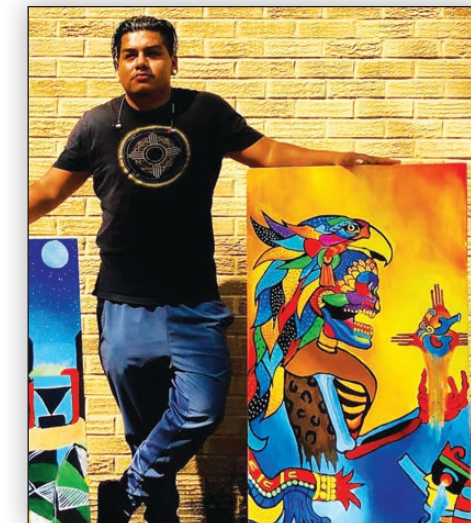
This month, the Morton Museum of Collierville History is presenting a Community Art Gallery: Heritage Through Art. One of the artists being featured in this exhibition is Jose Valverde. His paintings represent his heritage through Mexican Folk Art with a Native American and Southwestern perspective.

Jose Valverde was born in Mexico. Jose is the second born of five children. His family moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico before they landed in Memphis when Jose was 12 years old. He attended Wooddale Middle and High Schools and completed some schooling at the Memphis College of Art. Jose revisited New Mexico in 2016 after 11 years since first arriving in the country. "The landscapes of the Southwest reminded me of my hometown and my childhood," Jose said. "This trip inspired me to dig deep into my painting everyday and every moment he has a chance ever since for the past five year.

In recent years, Jose has become more and more involved in the local Spanish community. He has become a guest writer for the El Informante, a Spanish news site, and writes encouraging stories about Latin artists in the community. More specifically, he has become involved in the Mariposas Collective, a grassroots group that helps immigrant families in the Memphis area. He's also involved in Desayuno con Libros, part of Comunidades Unidas en Una Voz (CUUV), that provides free books to the community along with activities and free breakfast every third of the month lead by Yuleiny Escobar. This involvement has given him countless opportunities of inspiration for his paintings and given him influential connections throughout the Memphis area community.

"I love supporting the Latino community year round, especially celebrating Hispanic heritage month, and indigenous activities through the fall months," Jose says. He's very active in cultural arts by making his art accessible to display at different events such as Caza Teatro bilingual theater group. He's also been a part of the Pink Palace Craft Fair and supports Shelby County Schools. He plans to join Paint Memphis 2022, a one-day collaborative mural including over 150 local artists which will be held on October 8th on Broad Avenue.

Jose invites anyone who'd like to get involved in the community or the arts to reach out to him. He can be found on Instagram @carlosval28.



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Yellowstone Grand Canyon



Buffalo

GUEST CONTRIBUTOR: FRANK WARREN

# A Dream, REALIZED...



Grand Teton Lake with Boys



Cody Rodeo



Yellowstone Old Faithful

Many years ago, I had a dream to take my family on a road trip out west. A vacation to visit the national parks was not something we did when I was growing up. I wanted to do this for my family and myself. A few years after my first son was born, I started researching and planning. I had big ambitions, but there were reasons and excuses not to move forward. Time, money, or a combination of the two. Before I knew it, sixteen years had passed. My two-year-old was now eighteen and heading off to college. It was now, or maybe never.

Suellen and I began to start planning in the fall of 2020. We had a general idea of what we wanted to see: Mt. Rushmore, Yellowstone, and the Grand Tetons. After many hours of preparation, our 14-day excursion to see the west was set.

On July 16, 2021, we left Collierville to begin our dream trip. It took two days to drive to Rapid City, SD, outside Mt. Rushmore. Of all the places we had planned to visit, I was most excited about seeing this monument. I believe that Mt. Rushmore is the most iconic place in our country. This project was the work of Gutzon Borglum and took 17 years to complete. Over 500,000 tons of surface stone were removed, most by dynamite. Mr. Borglum chose each president to represent a different ideal: Washington (founding), Jefferson (growth), Lincoln (preservation), and Roosevelt (development). Watching the light show after dark was a special time for us. It was a patriotic ceremony and well worth seeing.

We spent the next day touring the Wind Cave National Park and cave system. While hiking a back trail, I encountered a buffalo. That afternoon we toured Deadwood, SD, which was very touristy. Our trip took us from Rapid City to Gillette, WY, to the Sturgis motorcycle museum. It is hard to believe that over a million people visit annually for the rally. The museum is worth touring. There are many antique bikes and beautiful paintings. My favorite was the motorcycle sculptures carved from wood.

We drove from Sturgis to the Devil's Tower, one of my favorite stops. The trail around the tower took about two hours to complete. This is a must-see stop for anyone traveling through Wyoming. Our

STORY AND PHOTOS BY FRANK WARREN

Frank Warren and his family moved to Collierville in 2011. He is a Collierville Board of Education member and a Broker with Coldwell Banker. Suellen is the Executive Director of the IPC Foundation. Samuel is a Sophomore at the University of Memphis and a business major. Jed and Cal are Seniors at Collierville High School.

next stop was Yellowstone, and we stayed in Red Lodge, MT. While traveling up the mountain, a bag of chips popped from the change in air pressure caused by the elevation. It was the most scenic portion of the entire trip. There are numerous natural phenomena, countless miles of trails to explore, and wildlife everywhere. Yellowstone Lake was enormous; the water stretched past the horizon.

The visit to the Old Faithful geyser and Inn were places that I was excited to see. The geyser is a part of a chain of geysers in the park. It is the most famous because of the regular eruptions. The water spewed forth for over two minutes and reached a height of 100 feet or more. The Inn itself is a marvel. I tried to imagine how the builders were able to construct such a monumental building over a hundred years ago. The stone fireplace is massive and a focal point of the lobby.

From Old Faithful, we headed east towards Cody, WY, to see our first rodeo. The idea of sitting on top of an angry bull or bronco and trying to hold it for eight seconds is wild to me. No one was successful that evening, and a couple of times, I cringed once they were thrown off. I thought some would end up in the hospital, but everyone jumped up, waved at the crowd, and limped off. I was taken by the skill and courage of the young men and women who entertained us. Each day was a new adventure with sights and experiences.

The highlight of our time in the Grand Tetons was the hike around Jenny Lake and to Inspiration Point. The scenery was spectacular and picturesque. After hiking around, we decided to swim in the lake. The stream is fed by snow melt and has a stone bottom. The water was clear and very cold. It took a little while to adjust, but we enjoyed the experience on a hot day.

Our last major stop was at the Rocky Mountain National Park. The drive's highlight was the stop at the Alpine Visitors Center, which was 12,000 feet above sea level. They mark the edge of the road and help guide the snowplows as they clear them. I would not want that job. One wrong turn, and off they go. Our trip out west in 2021 was unforgettable and produced memories we will carry with us for the rest of our lives.



Mt Rushmore with Family



Mt Rushmore



Badlands Entrance

**EXPERT CONTRIBUTOR: CHALET ROBBINS**

# TRUE STORY!

BY GUEST CONTRIBUTOR, ANITA UPDIKE



Hello Collierville! My name is Anita Updike, and I want to share my exceptional experience with Collierville's Expert Contributor, Chalet Robbins - Bank of England Mortgage.

I am currently a Minister and Elder at New Birth Community Church in Mobile, AL, where I live. I'm also a registered nurse working for The University of South Children & Women's Hospital. I do a lot of volunteer work with the

children's ministry, children's dancing, and also feeding the homeless. My real estate agent introduced me to Chalet Robbins when it came time to get a loan for our new home. Mrs. Robbins is licensed in all 50 states, so she was able to work with me in Alabama while she primarily works in Tennessee and lives in Mississippi.

Chalet is very personable! She made time for me when I reached out to her and quickly became busy. We reviewed my finances together, which she filtered through to help me improve my credit. She advised me on the directions I needed to go. I noticed there were a few roadblocks, and she could have referred me to someone else, but she's so knowledgeable that she was able to help me. I feel that she has a love for her job, and she cares. She goes above and beyond, way more than just a paycheck. Not only that, but when I closed on my home, she came to the closing! Most people don't do that, but she did come out to see me in Mobile, AL.



Chalet brought a thoughtful housewarming gift that fit nicely into my new home, which was a welcomed surprise. She shared additional knowledge with me, like making other payments against my mortgage to shorten the loan term. If she had not been there, I would not have been in the excellent position I'm in now. Anytime someone is willing to pay attention to you and listen to your story, it builds on that professional relationship. While securing the loan, things continued to come up, and she is so well-rounded in credit and legal matters it made things flow smoothly. She treated my closing like it was hers, and I know other people would also appreciate that professional experience.

For mortgage lending inquiries and information, call Chalet Robbins at (662) 603-7020. Learn more about the types of loans and downpayment assistance programs that Bank of England Mortgage offers online: [www.chaletrobbins.org](http://www.chaletrobbins.org).



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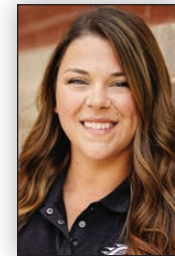
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**EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: CARI BURGESS**

# THE PRIDE OF COLLIERVILLE BAND

BY GUEST CONTRIBUTOR, CARI BURGESS



My name is Cari Burgess, and I am the Associate Director of Bands at Collierville High School. I am originally from Algonquin, IL, and attended the University of Wisconsin at Whitewater. I currently live in Southaven, MS, with my two rescue dogs, Eleanor and Penny, and my husband, Devin Burgess, also an Associate Director of Bands at Collierville High.

The Collierville High School Band provides our students with thoughtful and carefully planned instruction. The students are the best of the best in performance, behavior, and academics. We seek to provide as many musical opportunities as possible. This includes several performance ensembles, leadership training, bringing in professional ensembles, performing in clinics, and competing nationally in concert and marching. These students love to perform in the Collierville community for store openings, charity events, Collierville on the Square, etc.

I began my musical journey in elementary school, learning to play the clarinet. I took full advantage of the numerous ensembles my school offered in high school. When it was my time to think of careers, I didn't know how I would spend a day without music in my life, so I decided to become a music major at the University of Wisconsin - Whitewater. There I earned my degree in Instrumental Music Education. I began teaching in Wisconsin but soon followed my husband to Mississippi to teach in a school where I could team-teach. I spent six years at Lake Cormorant Schools in Desoto County as the Middle School Director of Bands and Assistant High School Director. I came to Collierville High School in 2019 because I could not pass on an opportunity to work for the best school in the region!

On Thursday, December 8th, Collierville High School will host its annual Winter Band Concert. The event begins at 7:00 pm in the Pickler Auditorium and is free to attend! Here's some advice for future female band directors: Set goals, boundaries, and high expectations for yourself and the students you affect. Be humble with your strengths and honest with your weaknesses.



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**THOMAS RICHARDSON**  
 BAND DIRECTOR

PHOTO BY RED BARDES

# 10 TRADEMARKS OF HONORABLE PEOPLE

BY HAYES HORA

## PARENTHOOD

Be actively involved in your children's lives. Expose them to things that reinforce your values, and look for teachable moments.

## INFLUENCERS

The people you surround yourself with will likely influence your behavior and social status. Does your inner circle bring out your best or worst characteristics?

## ROLE MODELS

Having role models is a good thing. Selecting people you respect and emulating their behavior will keep you on track in life and business.

## CULTURE

Keep the values of your upbringing in the back of your mind. Remember who you are and where you came from. Act the part.

## EDUCATION

Only one investment will never go down — an investment in yourself. Embrace the value of continuous improvement.

## PERSONAL GROWTH

Learn a new skill, sport, hobby, or process. Performing the activity well isn't what counts — it's the know-how gained from the encounter.

## POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT

Attend a house of worship, volunteer within your local community, or join a values-based organization. Become a positive mentor.

## PERSONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Make good choices. You can choose, but you're not free from the consequences of those choices.

## MINDSET

Stay mentally strong & determined. Stay motivated by emulating the behavior of the role models you've grown to respect.

## SELF-EXAMINATION

Make time to do some soul searching. The real prize for living with integrity is making yourself proud.

## NEIGHBOR SPOTLIGHT: BILLY PATTON

# A MAN OF HONOR

BY HAYES HORA | PHOTOS BY BILLY & AMY PATTON



I want to share my experience with an incredible friend and business owner, Billy Patton. Billy is the proud owner of Patton Computer, which also includes a contract post office inside. Billy's wife, Amy, owns Patton Pharmacy under the same roof. I've always been intrigued by this unique business model that combines many valuable services. I met Billy about a year ago, and the first thing that I immediately noticed was how much he cares about helping young entrepreneurs develop their footing and become established and successful. I have seen him write recommendations for his employees to companies like International Paper and FedEx. Most business owners want to keep and retain their employees. Still, Billy enjoys being that friend and mentor who uses his business as a launchpad for his workers.

Billy always takes the time to listen to anyone who walks into his office. I've never felt rushed or unimportant when I've dropped by to deliver a magazine or see how he's doing. Billy listens to everyone's issues and provides constructive feedback that anyone would appreciate. Mr. Patton is also an Alderman for the Town of Collierville. From my experience, he faultlessly represents servant leadership and leading by example. In the past, Patton Computers has even sponsored Collierville High School kickoff games, gifting laptops at halftime to lucky ticket-drawing winners.

Billy and I have a few things in common. We both enjoy helping people and using our platforms/connections to support others. Billy knew that I attended Briarcrest in my younger years and suggested I interview Joe Clayton, the past President of Briarcrest Christian Schools, during my time there. Mr. Clayton was thrilled to see his story inside the magazine, and sadly, he passed away a few months afterward. Being able to honor others is extremely rewarding to both of us. Billy taught me that the only way to receive honor is to give it. I am thankful for Billy's referrals, support, and friendship. Just this week, I will be attending the 2023 Leadership Collierville class, thanks to Billy's generous sponsorship.

Our family will keep shopping with Patton Computer (901.854.1112) & Patton Pharmacy (901.854.9484) as long as they keep the doors open! My kids complete homework daily on Billy's refurbished iPads, which are a great value! We're always re-stocking our printer's 65XL ink cartridges, refilling prescriptions at the pharmacy, and mailing out thank-you cards from the contract post office inside. The next time you are near Market Blvd., drop into Patton Computer and say hi to Billy, and remember to bring your cracked iPhone & iPad screens with you!



## EXPERT CONTRIBUTOR: DAWN WELCH KINARD

# Collierville

## REAL ESTATE HOME SALES FOR AUGUST 2022



ADDRESS	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SQ. FEET
617 BUSHWILLOW LN	2,200,000	2,200,000	5406
1267 DUBRAY LAKE CIR	2,000,000	2,000,000	8020
563 LAMBS BROOK LN	1,349,000	1,275,000	4742
3361 BAILEY STATION RD	975,000	975,000	4364
3335 BAILEY STATION DR	975,000	975,000	4645
10060 AVENT RIDGE CV	950,000	965,000	5241
1601 PAINTED HORSE PASS	889,900	889,900	4710
1590 PAINTED HORSE PASS	885,000	885,000	4578
80 TWIN LAKES RD	930,000	885,000	4046
706 CYPRESS VIEW CIR E	850,281	878,387	3878
3362 HIDDEN BEND LN	869,000	869,000	3711
902 CYPRESS POND DR	849,999	849,999	4187
10181 W SHREWSBURY RUN	875,000	842,000	5740
630 RIDGE SPRINGS RD	799,900	830,000	4878
295 PARK VIEW DR	875,000	830,000	4943
1628 COURTS MEADOWS CV	815,000	815,321	4922

ADDRESS	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SQ. FEET
267 BECKHAM DR	801,285	801,285	3935
1282 FLATROCK LN	775,000	764,000	4778
838 TALL SPRUCE CV	740,000	761,500	5266
235 NEW BALLARD RD	759,995	759,995	3925
300 PARK VIEW DR	749,000	749,000	4309
12592 TIEMPO LN	719,000	731,140	4055
10236 CARNEGIE CLUB DR	699,900	725,000	3631
492 FALLEN TIMBERS LN	699,000	710,000	4560
150 CLOVER RIDGE DR	725,000	700,000	3700
202 CHADWICK WOODS LN	695,000	700,000	3410
220 MARY TAYLOR WAY	695,000	695,000	3600
1721 SHOAL CREEK LN	679,900	690,000	3964
611 COVINGTON WALK DR	735,000	685,000	3757
2280 E SHREWSBURY RUN E	680,000	680,000	4341
10257 OLD COURSE CV	699,900	675,000	3938
3412 VILLAGE CROSS LN	649,900	662,000	4499
1965 ALMADALE FARMS PKY	675,900	660,000	3762
1078 SMOKY OAKS LN	665,000	655,000	4500
1605 COLEHERNE CV	628,000	650,000	3950
10141 CLIVEDEN DR S	649,750	649,750	3198
1105 RAVENNA CV	619,900	640,000	3843
1686 CYPRESS SPRINGS LN	635,000	635,000	4055
1533 E INDIAN WELLS DR E	625,000	631,500	3938
1142 WILLOW BEND DR	638,000	630,000	4211
10634 SAFFRON HILL CV	600,000	618,000	3484
427 TARRAN MILL CIR E	585,000	605,000	3012

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**NEIGHBOR SPOTLIGHT:  
ED CLARK**

# MAKING A DIFFERENCE

BY EMILY CLEMMER  
PHOTOS PROVIDED BY ED CLARK

If you had an opportunity to make a difference, what would you do? Would you donate money? Give your time and services? Use your talents to teach others? Run for public office? Would you go through an organization or start-up your own campaign? Would you stay within your community or go to the ends of the earth? The options are really endless. You can choose to make a difference however you see the need, or it could even choose you in the right time, moment, and season of your life.

Ed Clark is a retired FedEx executive. He worked 28 years at FedEx and spent his last 10 years serving as President and CEO of FedEx Trade Networks (now known as FedEx Logistics). At the age of 55, in October of 2009, he wanted to go from making a living to making a difference. He just wasn't exactly sure what that difference would be.

Around that time, his daughter Anna was attending Rhodes College and wanted to go on their church mission trip to Kenya. As the idea of this mission trip was discussed between their family, it was decided that if Anna was going on the mission trip, Ed would be going too. That mission trip in 2010 to Kenya included a team of 14 people from Germantown Methodist Church. About 12 other mission teams from a network of other churches across the United States visit Kenya throughout each year. Ed Clark has been going to Kenya almost every year since.

The mission trips mostly serve within the town of Maua, Kenya, an area that is also known as the Nyambene district in Meru County in northeastern Kenya. Almost every mission team focuses on building a house for orphan families. They also partner with the Methodist Mission Hospital in town and participate in various need projects from painting walls within the walk-in clinic to providing medical care. It just so happened that on Ed's team this year there were two doctors, three nurses, and one pharmacist. They were able to provide free medical services to over 300 people who have never seen a doctor before. Out of those seen, about 10-20 patients were diagnosed with a serious illness. One of those patients was an eight-year-old girl with congenital heart disease. Efforts are being made to bring her to the United States for surgery.

The mission teams also work closely with the nearby rescue center for orphaned street children. Most of these children are a result of the AIDS epidemic that hit Kenya and the area hard in the late '90s. It's very common for these orphaned children to get hooked on kaht.



Khat is a plant, somewhat similar to tobacco, that acts as a stimulant and suppresses hunger. Maua is the trade center for khat in the entire world. Children in the area chew it so that their hunger will go away which enables them to feel sufficient without food.

On his first mission trip to Kenya, Ed Clark met a local Kenyan by the name of Stanley Gitari. Stanley was the head of community services for the hospital and had a vision to start up a school for orphaned children in the rural community of Athiru Gaiti, near the town of Maua. There were 22 students that wanted to be a part of this new school. Unfortunately the efforts and grants that Stanley applied for were lost. Ed thought to himself, "This is the difference that God wants me to make." He reached out to Stanley and made a commitment to donate money to the school for ten years.

The Clark MCK (Methodist Church Kenya) Academy just celebrated its 10th Anniversary this past July. What started as 22 students with one classroom grew to 450 students, 14 classrooms, and 13 teachers. The 10th Anniversary celebrated the graduating class of 2022, which included the pioneer class of 22 students. All of the original students passed their National Examinations and also transitioned to National, extra county, and county secondary schools. In Kenya, when a child completes eighth grade, they move on to secondary school, which is equivalent to college for us in the United States. Guests that attended the school's anniversary celebration included the Bishop of the Methodist Church of Kenya and kids from three other nearby schools.

Kids performed dances, skits, poems all day long. Over 1500 were in attendance.

Students within the Clark MCK Academy receive breakfast and lunch everyday which some would not have otherwise. All students are provided clothing to wear as uniforms. Most kids live in mud or stick huts with no utilities and have to walk as far as three or four miles to school. A dormitory is currently being constructed to help provide a sufficient living environment for its students. The school competes with traditional schools academically and performs at the top levels. The students love school, are happy to be there and are very excited to learn.

Read more about the Clark MCK Academy at <https://clarkmck.org/>.



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**GUEST CONTRIBUTOR:  
JEFFREY DAY, THE MESMERIST**

# THE OLDEST ART FORM

PHOTOS AND STORY BY JEFFREY DAY

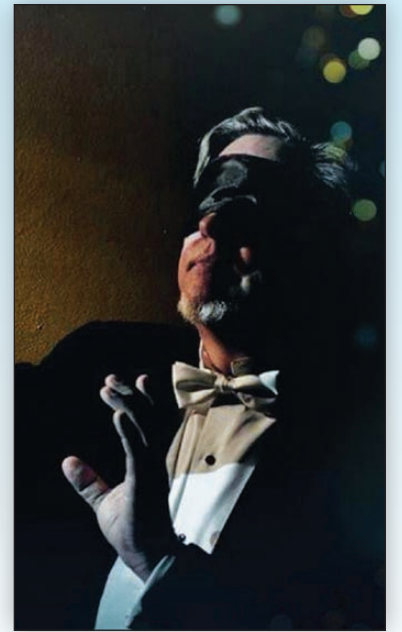
MAGIC is older than dance or music, and it is something that has always intrigued me since I was a small child. It wasn't until I was in college that I had thoughts of pursuing this ancient art form as a profession one day. It took many, many years to make this dream a reality. Early on, I made a living as a computer tech with some major companies. Although it paid the bills, I was not happy. I occasionally picked up the odd magic gig, but that was not enough to satisfy me. One day I decided to take the proverbial "leap of faith" and leave my job and become a working performer.. a magician.

*"What the eyes see, the heart must believe."*  
– Magician, Dai Vernon (1894-1992)

I saw my first performing magician on "The Ed Sullivan Show" at eight. When he was about eight, his family always watched that show on Sunday evenings, where there were acrobats, jugglers, and magicians. He never could figure out how the magicians did those incredible things. Jeffrey's father suggested he go to his elementary school library and see if there were any magic books he could check out. So, he did just that. There were three magic books on the shelf. "I was showing my friends magic tricks from these books, and I didn't want them to find out how I was doing these amazing things. I checked these books out for four years!" His school library was also where there was a small theater with a stage.

*"No one could be considered an accomplished magician until he had mastered the Cups & Balls."*  
– Escapologist Harry Houdini (1874-1926)

One day a magician came and performed a show. His name was Johannes Crewe, and his stage name was Hans Moretti. He was from Beckersdorf, Poland (now Yustynivka, Ukraine). He and his wife Helga came to the U.S. and traveled around the U.S. in a large R.V. packed with their magic show. They helped pay for their travels by performing at elementary schools across the United States. It turns out he was a famous magician in Europe. "I'll never forget his impact on me as a young kid. When it was time to return to our classrooms after the show, I went backstage and asked to see one more trick. He showed me the old "nickel-from-behind-the-ear" trick. I was amazed. He then did the most unimaginable thing. He showed me how to do this thick! He said in a very thick accent, "Do not show anyone until you can fool yourself in the mirror." I promised. I was hooked."



*"My object is to mystify and entertain. I wouldn't deceive you for the world."*  
– Howard Thurston (1869-1936)

Magician Jeffrey Day performs a show called "The Mesmerist," a historic magic show based on the magic and magicians from the 19th century. His performance is achieved in the beautiful Victorian ballroom of the Woodruff- Fontaine House. He performs illusions that were once performed by the great conjurers of the Victorian period. My goal is to grab your attention in the first minute and keep you on the edge of your seat until the very end. Follow [JeffreyDayMagic.com](http://JeffreyDayMagic.com) for showtimes!"



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*Joyce McKenzie*

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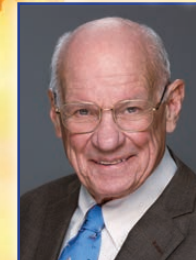
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FEATURED RECIPE

# DINSTUHL'S Peanut Butter

BY ANDREW DINSTUHL  
PHOTOS BY REBECCA DINSTUHL



## SQUARES

People often associate candy with Halloween. What a fun time of year! Trick-or-treating, pumpkin patches, costumes, and gatherings make it a fun introduction to the fall. This October, why not try your hand at making candy from scratch? The Dinstuhl Family has been making quality candies in Memphis since 1902. Chef Andrew Dinstuhl, a 5th generation candy maker, shares his take on Dinstuhl's Peanut Butter Squares, which

you can make at home!

### INGREDIENTS:

- Three 12oz bags of Nestle White Morsels
- One 28oz jar of Jif Creamy Peanut Butter
- Two teaspoons of Fine Salt
- Two pounds of high-quality Milk or Dark Chocolate (Preferably Dinstuhl's)

### INSTRUCTIONS:

Add the white morsels, peanut butter, and salt to a double boiler and stir until all are melted and thoroughly combined. Line a 13 x 9 baking dish with parchment paper. Add peanut butter and chocolate mixture to the pan and smooth the top. Place in the refrigerator until fully set (about 1 hour). Remove and let it set until it reaches room temperature. Cut them into one-inch squares. Chop chocolate into small pieces and place in a microwave-safe bowl. Microwave chocolate 30 seconds at a time until halfway melted. Stir chocolate until fully melted. Immediately dip peanut butter squares into chocolate using a fork and place them on parchment paper. Let the square set until the chocolate is completely hardened. Enjoy!

EXPERT CONTRIBUTOR: DR. S.W. HORA (BILL)

# SPORTS-RELATED EYE INJURIES

BY EXPERT CONTRIBUTOR, DR. S.W. HORA



Football season has begun! Everybody wants to play and have fun, but that doesn't mean safety should take a back seat. Anyone can get an eye injury. Kids and teenagers are more likely to injure their eyes, especially while playing sports. Contact sports like football, hockey, and baseball carry a higher risk. If you or your child has an eye injury, call for help right away. For minor eye injuries, treatment may include cold compresses,

eye flushing, eyedrops, eye patches, and over-the-counter pain medications. Covering your eye will allow it to rest while it's healing. Eye injuries can include bruises, punctures, and scratches. Some eye injuries heal with rest and at-home treatments, while others can cause severe eye damage and vision loss.

Some of the most common eye injuries include a 'black eye,' for example. A blow to the eye or the tissue around it can cause bruising around the eye. An eye surface hemorrhage (bleeding) can result from straining too hard (such as during a cough) or from trauma to the eye. Corneal abrasions occur when foreign objects scratch the cornea. The cornea is the clear transparent area on the front of the eye. Corneal abrasions cause pain, sensitivity to light, and eye-watering.

On the field, collisions happen frequently. Orbital socket fractures usually occur when an object or fist hits the eye. In an orbital blowout fracture, bones inside the eye socket shatter. The muscles that support



the eyes can stretch, tear or become trapped. Children are especially susceptible. A detached retina can cause permanent vision loss.

An eye injury can happen to anyone anytime, so take precautions and wear protective eye gear. Don't rub the eye if your child has an eye injury, or try to remove any sharp objects without medical help. Don't wait if your child has an eye injury! It's better to have it checked and treated. Call Dr. Hora for an appointment: (901) 853-1420. For emergencies, always dial 9-1-1 (See ad on page 3).

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## VETERAN SPOTLIGHT: RON MCCARTY

# A VETERAN COMMUNITY

PHOTO AND STORY BY EMILY CLEMMER

Community can be found within your neighborhood, your school, your workplace, your church, your child's extracurricular activities, or within any organization that you enjoy being a part of. The Collierville VFW provides a place for Veterans of Foreign Wars to find community, share stories of experiences from active service, and relate with other like-minded men and women.

"It's a huge melting pot here with strong camaraderie," says Ron McCarty, a Vietnam era veteran who is heavily involved in the VFW. "We are all taking care of all veterans that may need help."

"Sometimes the story of the Vietnam Veteran doesn't get told," McCarty says. "The VFW is a place to come back in and gain a sense of pride for what I went through." After Ron McCarty graduated high school in 1968, he was drafted into the United States Army in March of 1969. Ron's older brother was

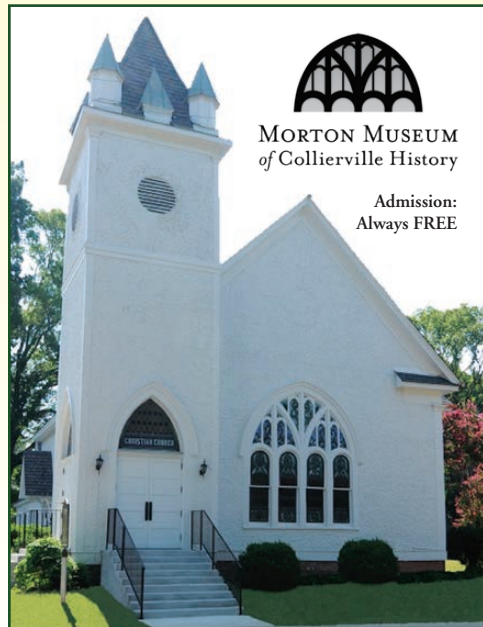
also in the service in Vietnam at this same time. Originally, Ron was sent to Germany and then on to Vietnam after his brother came home. He spent 15 months in Vietnam servicing helicopter avionics repairs. "Fortunately, I was able to come home and had no bad experiences."

"Back at home, the general public was in such disagreement with the war. Vietnam Veterans were shunned. We would grow our hair out long to try to blend in because short-haired males stood out like a sore thumb. We had a lot of trouble readjusting due to the tone of the nation towards

veterans coming home. Over time, the community has realized the importance of that war, and have developed a respect for the Vietnam Veterans. "My story is for the guys going through the mud now, and I can only hope I've helped some of them."

Ron serves as the House Committee Chair at the Collierville VFW. His role is to make sure everything is in working order and kept in good shape. Members of the VFW meet monthly on the third Thursday of every month. Before the business meeting, they have an hour of hospitality and a meal together. The recreational area is fairly new within the last couple of years. A lot of the events are open to the public. "We want Collierville to know we are active in our community," he says. The VFW will host events like homecoming celebrations, fish fry dinners, and live music. The VFW building is also available to be rented out as a reception hall.

Ron McCarty has been an active member of the Collierville VFW for six years now. He joined after retiring from a long career within the turf equipment industry. He now works part-time as the Warehouse Manager for Collierville Schools. He and his wife, Bobbie, have been married for 45 years and have lived on Valleywood Drive for 40 years. They have two sons and two grandsons. Bobbie is retired and spent her last 17 years of her career at Houston High School. They are members of Collierville United Methodist Church. Ron has been involved with Boy Scouts even when his sons grew out of the organization. Ron and Bobbie enjoy the unity and pride of the Collierville community. "People work and strive to keep Collierville a great place to live and raise a family. We raise our kids together, and Collierville was and is a place for us to accomplish that family dream," he says. "The VFW has also now become a place of community where the people are like family."



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# BEEHIVE HOMES - NOW OPENED!



PHOTO AND STORY BY GUEST CONTRIBUTOR, BEN MCGOVERN

BeeHive Homes is a newly opened quality senior living facility in Collierville which offers a comfortable, residential setting for guests. BeeHive Homes® of Collierville formally opened its doors at 1368 Wolf River Blvd on August 27, 2022. They are a national provider of residential assisted living for the elderly. Its homes operate on a smaller scale than many assisted living facilities, housing up to twenty-four residents. This home-style approach allows for more personal care for our memory care residents. According to the Population Resource Center, the number of people 65 or older in the U.S. will nearly double between 2000 and 2030, while the ratio of workers to retirees continues to decline. As each year passes, the need for affordable and creative senior care solutions becomes more pronounced.

BeeHive Homes® is a trading name of BeeHive Homes of America, Inc., a privately owned Idaho corporation and currently the largest franchised business in the assisted living industry operating in the U.S. Founded in 1987, the company began offering franchises in 1992. BeeHive Homes® presently has approximately two hundred homes operating in U.S. states. We hope you will drop by and see our beautiful facility. For more information, visit [beehivecollerville.com](http://beehivecollerville.com) or call (901) 414-8447.

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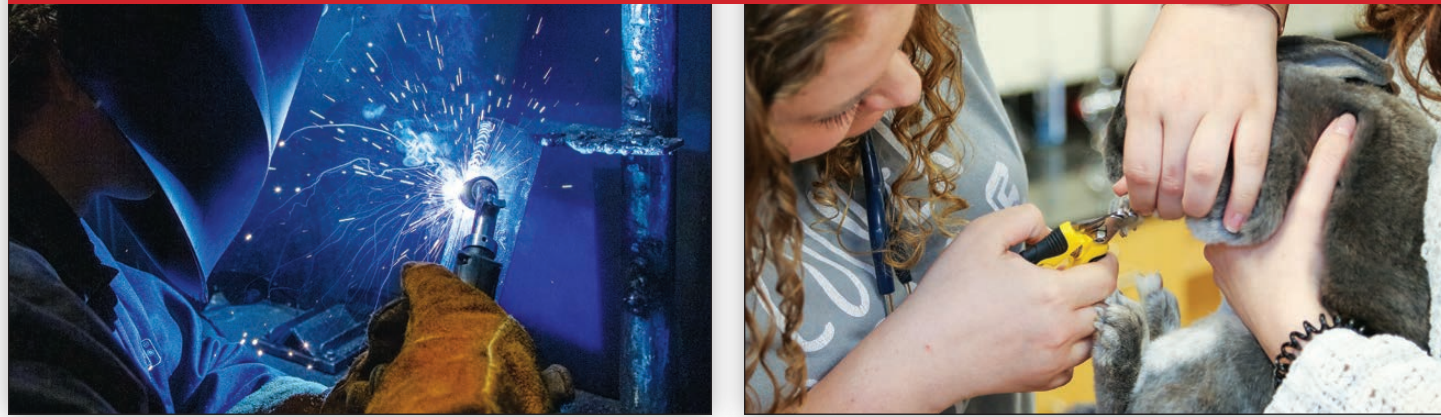
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# TECHNICAL EDUCATION & AND CAREERS

BY JEN HANNAH, COLLIERVILLE SCHOOLS PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

**COLLIERVILLE, Tenn. (August 9, 2022)**—For the third consecutive year, Collierville Schools—along with Collierville Partners in Education (PIE)—welcomed over 80 local industry leaders for an opportunity to engage with Collierville Schools teachers and learn more about the district’s Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs.

“Career and Technical Education in Collierville Schools is truly a unique opportunity for students in this community,” said CTE Supervisor Brett Heinrich. “With 19 programs of study and over 10 different industry certification options crossing 13 different career clusters, Collierville Schools offers multiple pathways to help students become career ready by the time they graduate high school.”

Local industry partner feedback is critical to ensuring the continued success of these programs. Collierville PIE has been instrumental in facilitating



meetings over the past three years and helping provide teachers with counterparts in those industries that align with their programs of study. “Having access to the titans of local business and industry has benefited our district in numerous ways,” said Dr. Gary Lilly, Director of Schools. “Through dialogue and shared purpose, we have leveraged these relationships to understand the needs of our local workforce better. PIE has helped us shape the curriculum and provide the tools so our students can develop the expertise needed to succeed after they leave high school.”

As announced in July, the State of Tennessee will invest \$500 million over the next four years to allow all traditional, public middle and high schools to establish an Innovative School Model. Funding will be awarded to schools as follows:

- Middle schools serving more than 100 students are eligible for up to \$500,000.
- Schools combining middle and high school grades serving more than 100 students are eligible for up to \$500,000.
- Middle and high schools serving less than 100 students are eligible for up to \$200,000.
- High schools serving more than 100 students are eligible for up to \$1,000,000.

Under this model, Collierville Schools expects a total of \$2,000,000 for the high school and the two middle schools.

“We are thankful to Dr. Lilly and our Board of Education members for their support in making CTE in Collierville Schools a first-class experience in West Tennessee,” added Mr. Heinrich. “The future is bright in Career and Technical education as seen through Governor Lee’s investment in Innovative School Models over the next four years. Our industry partners will be valuable resources as we look to add new programs that will give our students the skills necessary to compete in an ever-changing global economy.”

Collierville High School (CHS) will host its second annual Job Fair for students in Spring 2023 to help senior students become aware of job opportunities with local businesses.

The CTE program has also embraced Collierville Middle School and West Collierville Middle School, introducing Career Days for all eighth-grade students. Middle school students completed career interest inventories to prepare for last year’s program. 86% of students surprised at their recommended careers reported a subsequent interest in the jobs they learned about during the event.

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**GUEST CONTRIBUTOR:  
DAPHNE MCDONALD**

# Speech Pathology

With the passing of tax-free weekend, I am reminded that “summer” me packs her bags and gives way to “school” me. I have made it my goal to continue learning and growing each school year. I learn how to improve my skills and people. I developed a passion for helping people communicate and compassion for families with students who have communication needs. Our company is founded on the premise of helping people have ‘communication for your best life.’ With experience, I have realized that communication for your best life is different for some people. As parents seek services or participate in IEP meetings, questions may arise about Speech-Language services.

Some students have received therapy outside of school, in a clinical or home-based setting. The model of service is different, educational vs. medical. School-based treatment will focus on helping the child succeed in the academic environment and including their functional performance; the impairment must impact their academic performance. The medical model will focus on maximizing communication to complete activities of daily living inside and outside the home. One is not superior to the other; sometimes, it is not a one or the other choice. Some parents choose both services with private therapy before or after school hours and school therapy. Parents may choose to share the treatment plan implemented in private therapy. Still, they should

BY DAPHNE MCDONALD, CCC-SLP

know that goals may differ, and the school therapist is not obligated to follow the program because it may not fit the guidelines for the educational setting.

Sometimes parents may feel that they only want their students to receive individual therapy in the school setting. While this may be appropriate during those initial sessions, the group session option may be better at other times. Group sessions promote learning from the speech and language therapist and the student’s peers, resulting in more effective peer communication in school, church, camp, and home.

The most intense discussions often center around dismissals. The decision to dismiss is usually well thought out, and a good therapist will collect and examine data before concluding that dismissal is warranted. The goal should always be to dismiss and return the student to the general education classroom, depending on the disability. However, when we discuss whether a child is still eligible for these services, we must consider whether the impairment impacts them in the academic setting. A student can have a communication impairment and still succeed.

Your child’s speech therapist can sometimes be overloaded and frustrated but is probably doing their best to provide services. They want to see your child succeed and be an effective communicator. They are communication specialists and desire to give your child the gift of effective communication for their best life. A good SLP desires to provide the best treatment for the student and establish a good working relationship with the teachers and parents because they realize that most authentic and effective communication will take place outside the therapy setting.

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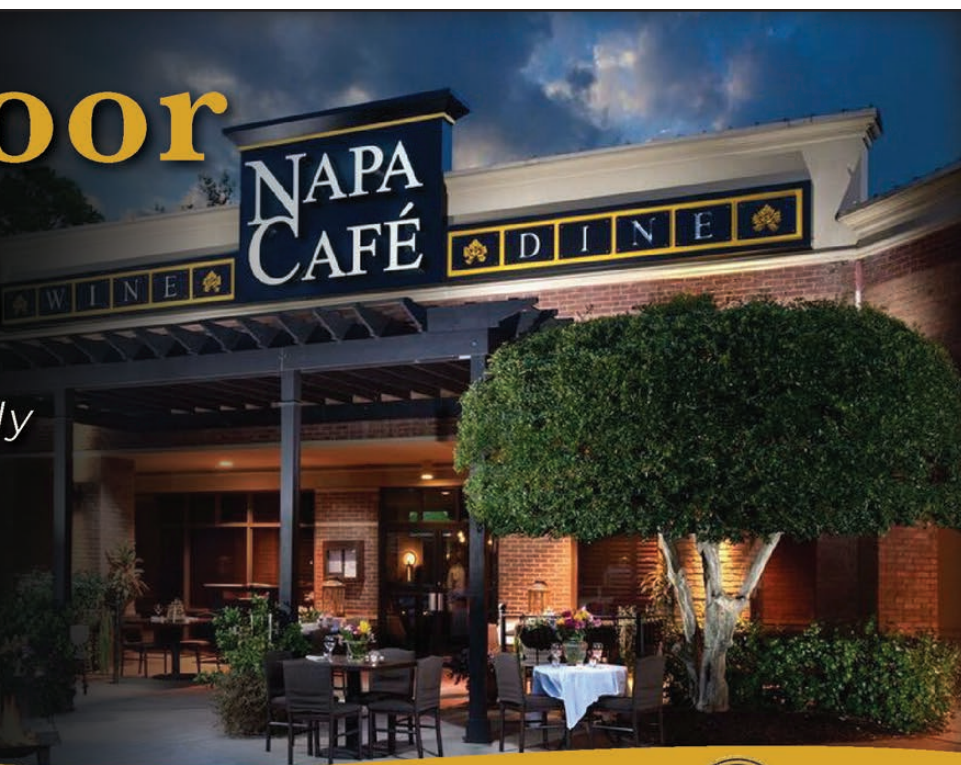
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