

July 2025 — Issue CXCIX of Volume XVII

Crocket Rocket

"The fastest way to read the news!"

Established November 2008

Read Online at www.TheCrockettNews.com



simple human sense Young-Hughes Insurance

731.696.5480

15 North Bells Street, Alamo, Tennessee www.YoungHughesInsurance.com | cy@younghughesinsurance.com

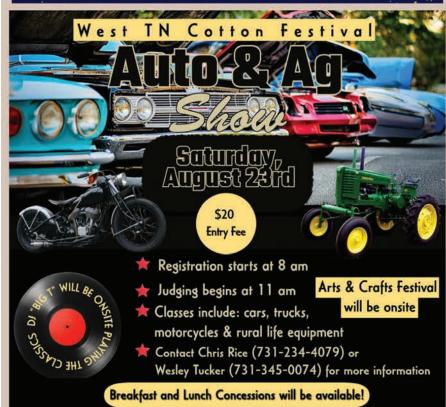
Auto-Owners.
INSURANCE

www.TheCrockettNews.com

WEST TENNESSEE COTTON FESTIVAL







ALL EVENTS WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE

CROCKETT MILLS COMMUNITY CENTER

84 COMMUNITY CENTER LANE FRIENDSHIP, TN 38034









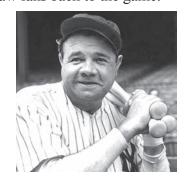


The First MLB All-Star Game Was a Home Run

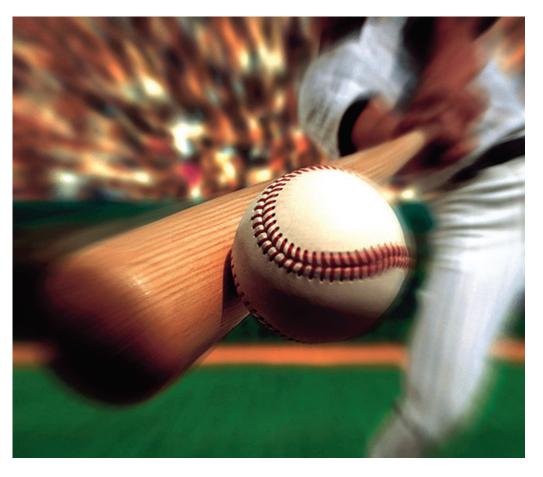
Anticipation is reaching a fever pitch as baseball fans await Major League Baseball's All-Star Game. On July 15, 2025 at Truist Park in Atlanta, the best players from the National League and the American League will face off in the Midsummer Classic. The All-Star Game is a celebration of the season's top talent.

While the All-Star Game may seem like something that has been cemented in baseball history, the tradition of the Midsummer Classic is less than 100 years old. Here are some fun facts about the inaugural MLB All-Star Game.

- ► The first All-Star Game was held on July 6, 1933 for a crowd of around 50,000 fans.
- ► The game took place at Chicago's Comiskey Park. This was the historic home of the Chicago White Sox from 1910 to 1990, and was often referred to as the "Baseball Palace of the World." Comiskey was demolished in 1991 to pave the way for a new stadium.
- Arch Ward, a sports editor, was the brainchild behind the MLB All-Star Game. The event was designed to boost interest in baseball during the darkest years of the Great Depression. Attendance at games had plummeted starting in 1930, and the average player's salary fell. The All-Star Game was an attempt to draw fans back to the game.



► Babe Ruth played in the first All-Star Game. In fact, Ruth hit the first All-Star home run in the bottom of the third inning when he launched a two-run shot.



- Some other players who showcased their talents during the game included Lou Gehrig, Lefty Gomez, Jimmy Foxx, Joe Cronin, Al Simmons, Charlie Gehringer, and Lefty Grove for the American League. The National League featured Bill Hallahan, Gabby Hartnett, Chick Hafey, Carl Hubbell, Pie Traynor, and Chuck Klein.
- This year marks the return of All-Star players wearing their own team jerseys, a change from custom-designed All-Star jerseys. During the first All-Star Game, the National League wore gray NL uniforms, while the American League wore the home uniform of their respective teams.
- The American League won the game 4-2.
- The game's popularity prompted Baseball Commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis to establish the MLB All-Star Game as an annual event. The game also set a precedent

for similar all-star exhibitions in other sports.

The first MLB All-Star Game didn't feature a Home Run Derby. That event was added in 1985 and has undergone some format changes since then. Many of baseball's most prolific hitters have competed in the Home Run Derby, including Carl Ripken, Jr., Barry Bonds, Ryan Howard, David Ortiz, Giancarlo Stanton, Aaron Judge, and Pete Alonso. Teoscar Hernandez of the Dodgers won the Home Run Derby in 2024.

Baseball fans will be eager to see who makes headlines this year. With its 92-year history, the MLB All-Star Game is a tradition that has endured and excited fans for nearly a century.

On July 15, 2025 at Truist Park in Atlanta, the best players from the National League and the American League will face off in the Midsummer Classic.

The Crockett Rocket is printed by offset and published once per month. The deadline for advertisement and article submission in *The Crockett Rocket* is the last Friday of every month. Submissions received after that date will be published in the following scheduled publication.

Crockett Native, Physician, World War I Veteran, Brigadier General

Meet Robert Clarence McDonald

BY JUDY POSTON (judyposton1963@gmail.com)

Some 40 years ago, Bells resident Dennis Jenkins was working at the gin, hauling cotton. It was here, one fall evening, while shooting the breeze with other workers, that he first heard the name of Crockett County native, physician, World War I Veteran, and Brigadier General Robert C. McDonald. He learned that a hospital, in another state, is named in his honor. Mc-Donald's burial place? Arlington National Cemetery. Dennis's curiosity was peaked. However, try as he might, he has never discovered another person in Crockett County who recognizes the name of Brigadier General McDonald. Dennis still has many questions, though the discoveries he has made on his own have only fed his longing to know more about the man AND fueled his desire that this Crockett County native's life and contributions not be forgotten.

Robert Clarence McDonald was born on a winter's day, February 18th, 1881, in Crockett County. Some sources say he was born and reared in Bells, others list Gadsden as his hometown. His parents were James Robert McDonald, originally from Mason Grove, and Sara Elizabeth "Sallie" (Moore) McDonald. (The McDonald family is related, not only to the Moore family, but the Evans family of Bells and the Conley family of Alamo, as well.) Robert was one of 12 children, including older brother, Samuel Egbert McDonald.

Robert's brother, Dr. Sam Mc-Donald, was a fixture in the county. A beloved physician, Dr. Sam, is still remembered today as being one of the first doctors in the area to treat his patients with penicillin. He is described by those who knew him

as a "good man and a great doctor." Sherry Kail recalls when they were children, her sister, Lynn, became ill with a bone infection. It was Dr. Sam who used the new drug to cure the sick little girl, saving her life, much to the relief and appreciation of the family.

A third brother, Dr. Theophilus Malcolm, known simply as "Tom," spent his adult life in his adopted home of Wolf City, Texas, where he died and is buried, after having served the people of that community as a dentist. His son followed in his footsteps and became a doctor, also. At least one other member of the McDonald family, a nephew of the three doctors, entered the field of medicine as well.

Dr. Sam and Dr. Tom dedicated their lives to the noble cause of taking caring of the folks of their respective communities. Robert (most likely known as Bob to his family and friends), like his brothers would undertake a career in medicine. However, his path would differ in that it would not allow for putting roots down in one place, but would carry him far and wide from the steps of his Tennessee boyhood home.

Robert graduated from the Peabody College for Teachers, in Nashville, in 1903. Three years later, he began classes at the Vanderbilt School of Medicine, also in Nashville. Here, he completed his first two years of medicine in just one year, then transferred to the School of Medicine at Tulane University in New Orleans, where two years later, in 1909, he received his MD degree.

Robert then moved to Texas to practice medicine. A year later, he was commissioned in the Medical Corps of the Army from Texas. This was the beginning of a remarkable journey that would take Rob-



Official photograph of Brigadier General Robert C. McDonald, **Medical Corps, United States Army**

ert across this nation and beyond as he dedicated his life to serving his country and his fellow man. Robert served five months at Fort Sam Houston, before entering the Army Medical School in Washington D.C. He then served with the Coast Artillery in San Francisco for the length of one year.

While in San Francisco, Robert accompanied General Hugh L. Scott on a trip to the Hopi Indian Reservation. General Scott had been selected by the War Department to settle a controversy regarding the education of Indian children.

Border with the infantry, before being assigned to Honolulu, in January, 1913 with the Coast Artillery where he was stationed at Fort Kamehameha on Pearl Harbor. 1913 was also the year Robert married Olive Elizabeth Berry. The two were married at Francis E. Warren Air Force Base in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Olive's father was also a Brigadier General and a graduate of West Point, who served in Field Artillery with the U.S. Army. Both Robert and his father-in-law served with General John J. Pershing. Robert and Olive's first two children, Robert served on the Mexican Robert, Jr. and Lucien, were born

while Robert was stationed at Fort as did the trauma inflicted by the Hospital in Fort Sheridan, Illinois. Kamehameha.

Back on the main land, Robert served on the Mexican Border once again until being sent by his Uncle Sam to France with the First Division in command of Ambulance Company Number 6, a part of the American Force Mobile Hospital.

The American Force Mobile Hospital was a World War I mobile hospital unit that operated on a tiered system of medical care treatment for sick and wounded soldiers. This was a precursor to the Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH) units that became famous in later conflicts like the Korean War. The First Sanitary Trains were a part of that tiered system of care.

A Sanitary Train was attached to an infantry division and was responsible for that entire division. Each Sanitary Train was made up of two battalions. Each Battalions was composed of two field hospital companies and two ambulance companies.

Previous to the American Force Mobile Hospital, soldiers wounded in battle needed to be carried on stretchers to carts, wagons, and later motorized ambulances, which then carried them to hospitals set up behind lines. In World War 1, more advanced weaponry such as machine guns and explosive bullets led to an unprecedented number of casualties. The farmers' well-manured fields in France were filled with bacteria which made infection a tremendous problem. Time spent in moving the wounded greatly reduced their chances of survival was assigned to Lovell General

transportation itself.

The Americans borrowed the idea of a mobile hospital from the French, themselves. The mobile medical units were designed not just for transportation, but were equipped to provide rapid response and treatment to the wounded.

The year was 1919. After serving there a year, he transferred to Lawson General Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia. While in Honolulu and at Lovell and Lawson Hospitals, he served in the specialty area of eye, ear, nose, and throat.

In October of 1921, Robert was



A 2021 rendering of the McDonald Army Health Center at Fort Eustis in Williamsburg, Virginia.

Robert served six months with the ambulance company before serving first as instructor and then director of the Army Sanitary School in Langres, France. He then served six months in the Inspector General's office at General Pershing's headquarters in France, before returning to the

Once back in the states, Robert

serving in the Surgeon General's Office in the division of planning and training. Some four years later, he took the course at the Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. In the years that followed, Robert continued to serve in a variety of places and capacities.

1926-1929: Director Military Art Department, Medical Field Service School, Carlisle Barracks, PA.

1929-1930: Student, graduated from the Army War College, Washington D.C.

1931-1935: Executive Officer, Surgeon General's Office

1935-1939: Executive Officer, Letterman General Hospital, San Francisco, CA

1939-1940: Post Surgeon, Fort Leavenworth, KS

1940-1941: Surgeon of the Third Army, San Antonio, TX

1942-1943: Service Command Surgeon, Headquarters, Third Service Command, Baltimore, MD

1943: Chief of the Hospitalization and Evacuation Branch, Headquarters, **ASF** (Aeromedical Staging Facility), Washington D.C.

1943: Commanding Officer of the Thomas M. England General Hospital, Atlantic City, NJ

1944-1945: Surgeon, Fourth Service Command, Atlanta, Georgia

This last position he held until he reached mandatory retirement age and retired on February 28, 1945. He was recalled the very next day, March 1, 1945 and retired the second time on March 4, 1946. He had served a total of 36 years in the Army Med Corps having advanced to the rank of Brigadier General, in 1945.

Robert was awarded the Decorated Legion of Merit, Mexican Border, Victory, and Pre-Pearl of the Harbor Medals. He was a Fellow of the American College Surgeons, a member of the American





Medical Association, and a Mason

Robert passed away on March 17, 1958, at the age of 77 at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, while living in Washington D.C. He, along with wife, Olive, and their infant daughter, also named Olive, are buried at Arlington National Cemetery, in Arlington, Virginia.

He and Olive were the parents of five children: four sons, Lucian Berry, Henry South, Robert Clarence Jr, and James Gordon. Their daughter Olive Elizabeth, lived only three months before her

All four of Robert and Olive's sons served their country in the Armed Forces:

Lt. Colonel Robert C. McDonald, Jr., a West Point graduate, chose Field Artillery upon graduation and served in General Patton's Third Army in France and Germany during World War II.

Lt. Commander Lucian B. Mc-Donald served with distinction in the United States Navy for 33

years. He was a Veteran of World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.

First Lieutenant James Gordon McDonald served with the Signal Corps, United States Army.

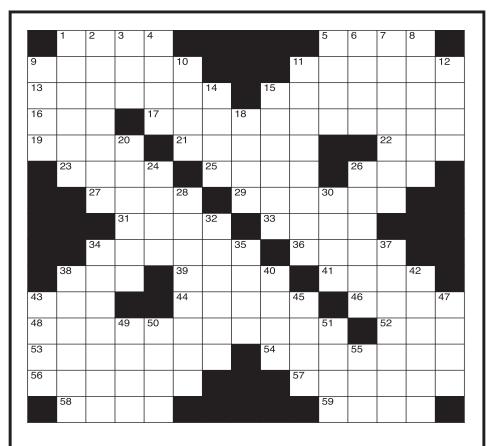
Seaman (SN) Henry S. McDonald served with the U.S. Navy.

In 1961, the military treatment center at Fort Eustis, Williamsburg, Virginia, was renamed Mc-Donald Army Health Center to posthumously honor Robert C. McDonald.

Robert C. McDonald's name is not included in the list of names of the Crockett County Veterans Memorial as he did not sign up to join the military in Crockett County which is a requirement for inclusion in the Memorial.

Thank you to Dennis Jenkins for his tireless research on Robert C. McDonald. If anyone has any additional information on Brigadier General McDonald, please feel free to contact the Crockett





CLUES ACROSS

Answers on Page 19.

1. Resorts

5. One point south of southwest

9. Musical performances

11. Matched

13. Four-footed animal part

15. Express severe disapproval of 41. Thrust a knife into

16. Type of leaf

17. Preparatory

19. Walk heavily

21. Succulent plants

22. Rectangle of grass

23. Lump in yarn

25. Too

26. Foot (Latin)

27. Afflicts

29. Smoothed

31. Mind (Greek)

33. Tampa ballclub

34. Semitic language

36. Sheltered sides

38. Ocean

39. Electronic point of sale

43. 12th month (abbr.)

44. Ringworm

46. Father of Aoris (Greek myth.)

48. Fighting back

52. Cease to exist

53. Insects in adult stage

54. Freestanding sculpture

56. Caps

57. Repents

58. Brown and Wallace are two

59. Moved quickly

CLUES DOWN

1. Goes bad

2. Yard structure

3. They

4. Marine invertebrate

5. European river 6. Office supplies firm

7. Physically abused

8. Service stations in Australia

9. Kills

10. Liquid body substances

12. Brave or noble act

14. Sicilian city

15. Conqueror

18. Elected officials

20. Type of "pig"

24. Drop of viscous substance

26. Monetary unit of Spain

28. Guarantees

30. Coloring materials

32. Reddish browns

34. Square measure

35. Will not

37. Canned fish

38. Appeared

40. Six (Spanish)

42. Took off

11. Particular to a given individual 43. Negligible amount

45. Posts in a Greek temple

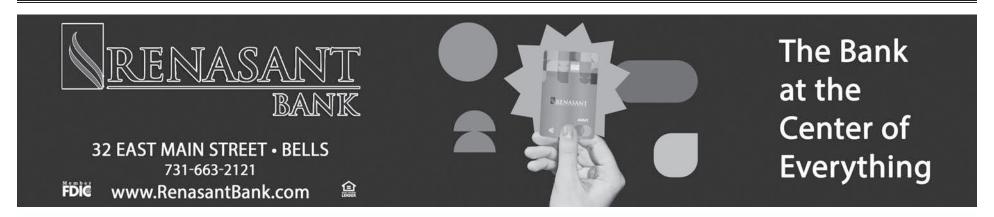
47. Witnesses

49. Phil ___, former CIA

50. Places to park

51. Guns

55. Dance to pop music



A Big Yellow School Bus Offers an Opportunity for Building Relationships

BY JUDY POSTON (judyposton1963@gmail.com)

Soon the sight of Crockett County's big yellow school buses will be once again visible both in town and on country roads, early each morning picking up students from their homes and delivering them to their schools, then returning their young passengers to their houses and families each evening. In those early morning hours, many students board the bus only to promptly fall asleep again, catching a few more winks before arriving at school for breakfast with their friends, then on to the classroom to begin their workday of reading, writing, arithmetic, and more.

Afternoons aboard the bus are much more lively. On August and September days, students have the heat to contend with. It gets HOT on those big yellow school buses. AND it gets LOUD. Sometimes things get edgy. On any given day, there may be those bus riders who have not had such a great day at school and the heat and the noise just add to their frustration. These students need a buffer – someone they can talk to who can bring a calmness and peace to their situation.

Director of Crockett County Schools P.A. Pratt and the Crockett County School Board would love to provide just such a person to ride along on county school buses during the afternoon commutes. Director Pratt shares that his own purpose and career has always been first and foremost about building relationships. Current bus drivers are encouraged to greet each child as they board the bus, interacting with students and establishing a relationship with them.

A "ride -along," however, could give full attention to the students, inquiring about their day, letting students know someone cares about them. If a student has had a bad day, the "ride-along" has the opportunity to offer a sympathetic, listening ear, a word of encouragement, an assurance that every day won't be like today. Mr. Pratt shares the chance to sway or influence someone for good is always going to start with that person understanding you have a genuine interest in him and want what's best for him.

Dr. John Freeman is one individ- of Education, 10 ual who intends to take Mr. Pratt Drive, in Alamo.

up on his offer to be a "ride-along" this fall. He looks forward to establishing relationships and making a difference in the lives of those children who ride his assigned bus.

P.A. Pratt fully realizes the job will be hard and demanding. It is a position that has been offered for years now. Dr. Freeman is the first to accept the challenge. It is a job not to be taken for the money so much as it is for the one who longs to make a difference in someone else's life AND in their own.

The position pays \$20.00 per hour. Those participating will serve in the afternoons only. For those interested in learning more or applying for the position, please visit the Crockett County Board of Education, 102 North Cavalier Drive in Alamo



Chicken-Fried Finger Foods, Yes!

Country-fried or chicken-fried are 2 tablespoons yellow mustard terms given to breaded and deepfried poultry and meat. In fact, 2 tablespoons dried dill chicken-fried steak is an institution in the American south, where thinly sliced cuts of cubed steak are prepared in this way and served with country gravy and biscuits. ThereÕs not much room for improvement in this classicÉ or is there?

In OBest-Ever Steak Fingers, O chicken-fried steak gets a makeover into easily picked up finger foods tailor made for dipping in a savory sauce. They are perfect for picnics and meals on the go. Dig in, courtesy of OLord Honey Traditional Southern Recipes with a Country Bling TwistÓ (Pelican Publishing) by Chef Jason Smith.

Best-Ever Steak Fingers Serves 6

Veggie oil for frying

2 cups all-purpose flour 2 tablespoons all-purpose steak seasoning, divided

1 cup buttermilk

1 egg

4 pounds beef cube steak

Dipping sauce

1 cup mayo 1Ú2 cup sour cream 1 package dry Italian salad dressing

Preheat oven to lowest tempera-

Pour 1 inch oil into a large castiron or other thick-bottomed skillet. Turn heat to medium low. Place the flour in a shallow pan. Sprinkle half the steak seasoning over flour, and mix together.

Cut steak into 1-inch strips. Add the rest of the steak seasoning, rubbing into each piece. Turn heat to medium on skillet. Place each strip in the flour mix, then into the milk and egg mix, then back into the flour. Shake off excess and place each strip on a plate. Repeat until all strips are coated.

Sprinkle a few drops flour over oil. If it sizzles, itOs ready to fry. Using tongs or a fork, place strips side by side in hot oil. DonÕt crowd the pan, or it will cool the oil.

After about 2 to 3 minutes, when strips start to brown on bottom, turn over. When second side is brown, remove and place on a cooling rack that has been set on a cookie sheet. Set the sheet in the preheated oven. Repeat until all fingers are cooked.

In a bowl, whisk together all dipping sauce ingredients.





Savor a Summer Fruit Salad

Even as summer winds down, there tends to be plenty of time to reap the rewards of backyard gardens and warm-weather entertaining. Refreshing salads are favored at such gatherings, and the interesting pairing of peaches and tomatoes makes the most of these fruits when they're at their peak.

Sweet and savory flavors combine in this recipe for "Peachy Tomato Salad" courtesy of "The Mediterranean Diet Cookbook" (Rockridge University Press). This delicious side pairs best with grilled fare.

Peachy Tomato Salad Serves 2

2 ripe peaches, pitted and sliced into wedges 2 ripe tomatoes, cut into wedges

1Ú2 red onion, thinly sliced

Sea salt and freshly ground pepper, to taste 3 tablespoons olive oil 1 tablespoon lemon juice

Toss the peaches, tomatoes and red onion in a large bowl. Season to taste. Add the olive oil and lemon juice, and gently toss. Serve at room temperature.

Ellis, Kissell **Graduate WestStar** Leadership Program

Two members of the Crockett County community are members of the WestStar Leadership Program's Class of 2025.

Hayden Ellis, principal insurance agent for East Financial Services of Alamo, and Austin Kissell, assistant principal at Friendship Elementary School, graduated June 17 in Jackson as members of the West-Star Leadership Program's Class of 2025.

WestStar Leadership Program participants learn new leadership skills and develop strategies for assisting communities in solving problems and maximizing potential. The program was established in 1989 and has more than 1,000 graduates.

To graduate the course, Ellis and Kissell participated in seven sessions from Jan. 30 through June 17 for its 34 participants, including an orientation and the graduation ceremony. WestStar is a program of The University of Tennessee at Martin.

For more information about the WestStar Leadership Program, visit www.utm.edu/weststar or call 731-881-7298. For more information about UT Martin, visit www. utm.edu or call 1-800-829-UTM1 (-8861).



Hayden Ellis



Austin Kissell

Crockett Residents Earn Degrees from UT Martin

Several Crockett County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during spring commencement ceremonies held May 3, 2025, with some 600 students participating.

Students receiving undergraduate degrees were:

Alamo – Adam Seth Castellaw; Benjamin Neely Joyner; Miriam

Bells - Harley Adriana Estrada; Kelsie Renee Laster; Giselle Zurita Estrada.

Maury City – Dawn M. Snipes.

Students receiving graduate degrees were:

Alamo - Colton Brian Kail.

Bells – Jenifer Trimble.

UT Martin is a comprehensive regional institution in the University of Tennessee System offering 23 bachelor's degree programs and eight master's degree programs. The main campus in northwest Tennessee is one of five primary UT campuses, and UT Martin regional centers are located in Jackson, Parsons, Ripley, Selmer, Springfield and Somerville. For more information, visit utm.edu.



Providing Residential garbage service for **Crockett, Gibson and Madison Counties**

Back Door Pick Up \$25/Month Must be bagged and in an easy to access location

Curbside Pick Up \$21/Month Cart provided

Custom Haul Call for an estimate 731-345-1421

Thank you for supporting our local business! www.VolunteerDisposalWest.com

VolunteerDisposalWest@gmail.com

glunteer Disposal West

Call today to set up your service!

Call Now: 731-345-1421 PO Box 418, Gadsden, TN 38337

Men's Health Check

A look at the health challenges faced by men today and the important role of preventive care in helping them live longer, healthier lives

Less Likely to See a Doctor

Men are significantly less likely than women to seek preventive healthcare services. In fact, a 2023 survey by the Cleveland Clinic found that only 50 percent of men consider an annual health exam to be an important part of taking care of themselves.

Shorter Life Expectancy

Men in the U.S.
74.8
Years
Women in the U.S.
80.2
Years
Source: Centers for Disease



More Suicides

Suicide rates are about four times higher among males compared to females in the U.S.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Preventio



Make an annual exam part of your health routine...

Experts recommend men schedule an annual exam with a doctor to ask about these and additional screenings appropriate for their age and lifestyle:

Blood pressure check Compared to the check Compared t

Every 3 to 5 years, beginning at age 18 (or more frequently if you have risk factors) Annually, beginning at age 40

Source: U.S. Preventive Services Task Force

Che

Cholesterol test

Every 5 years, beginning at age 18 (or more frequently if you have risk factors)

Source: Mayo Clinic

✓ Diabetes screening

Every 3 years, beginning at age 35 (or more frequently if you have risk factors)

Source: American Diabetes Association

✓ Colorectal cancer screening

Start screening at age 45 with a stool-based test or visual exam (or earlier if you have risk factors)

Source: American Cancer Society

✓ Prostate cancer screening

Talk with your doctor about this test if you are over age 40. While general guidelines recommend starting at age 50, a PSA screening is recommended earlier for some men.

Source: American Cancer Society



Leading Causes of Death

for Men in the U.S.

#1 Heart disease

#2 Cancer

#3 Unintentional injury

#4 Stroke

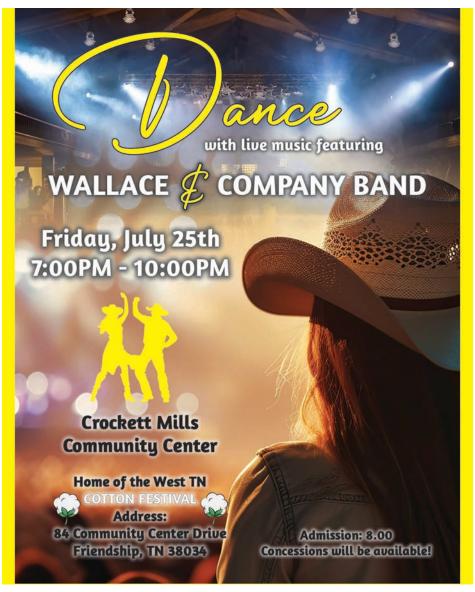
#5 Chronic lower respiratory diseases

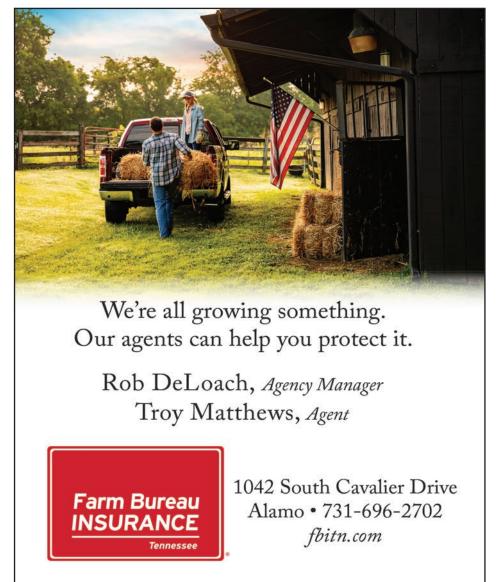
Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



Take Time Out for an Annual Exam

Preventive care plays an important role in disease prevention and early detection. Make an annual physical part of your game plan to keep your health on track!











Church on Green Frog Farm Alamo, Tennessee Monday, July 28, 6 p.m.

Sponsored by GIDEONS ARMY at Green Frog Farm

Do you miss singing the old hymns that so many of us sang in our churches growing up? Make plans to enjoy congregation singing with the piano music playing in the church built in the early 1800's. Now air conditioned!

Most churches used the Baptist hymn book that is no longer in print. We have been given these Baptist hymn books to use for our Old Fashion Hymn Singing.







Avery Kail at the West Tennessee Strawberry Festival in Humboldt in May.



FAST FIBER?

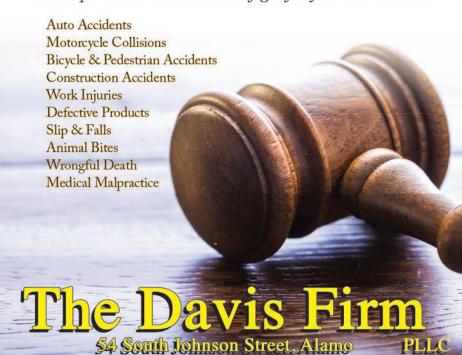
Good Neighbors Share Great Connections.



- 1. Share the QR code or the link TEC.com/SignUp
- 2. They Sign Up & Give You Credit
- 3. Enjoy Free Fast Fiber Internet

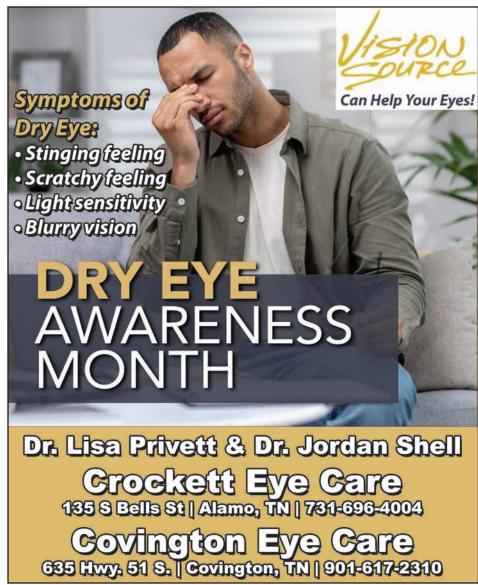
Refer TEC's Fast Fiber Internet to a neighbor, friend, or family member and get rewarded with one month of free service for every successful* referral!





731-696-4354





- **Certified Technicians**
- All Makes & Models
- **All Work Guaranteed**
- Financing Available

Call Rodney Hutchison 731-696-4310 or 731-784-7106





Expert HVAC Troubleshooting & Repair

TOP NOTCH SERVICE from Start to Finish

AIR MD

Heating • Air • Plumbing

2606 Eastend Dr SuiteA, Humboldt CallAirMD.COM 731-696-4310 731-784-7106

Coming Full Circle with Jerry Warren

Special live recording event Friday, July 25, at 6 p.m. and Saturday, July 26, at 4 p.m. at Wortham Chapel Baptist Church in Alamo. Free and open to the public. Must be age 12 or older to attend.

BY JUDY POSTON (judyposton1963@gmail.com)

The middle child in a family of nine children, one of Jerry Warren's earliest memories is that of his mother teaching him to sing, "Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to Him belong. They are weak, but He is strong." In the ensuing years, that song and message has brought comfort, color, and clarity to Jerry's life.

Tragedy struck Jerry's childhood home when his abusive father took the life of his mother. Not wanting the children to be separated, Jerry's grandmother, Jennie Lee Jones, brought them from their home in Indianapolis, Indiana, to Alamo to live with her on Twiddy Lane where she loved them well.

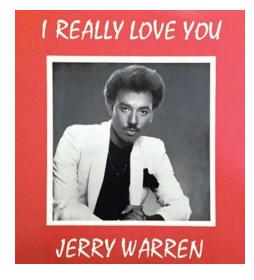
Jennie Lee received government assistance in the sum of about \$11.00 to aid in feeding and clothing the children. She worked faithfully for the Jerman family for many years. In her later years, when it was Jennie who needed help as she grew older, Jerry, without reservation, put his career on hold in order

to care for her, giving back to the dear woman who had given him so much all the while loving him and his siblings unconditionally.

During his growing-up years, Jerry chopped and picked cotton and strawberries for Max Cates. He also worked on Almeta and Andrew Green's dairy farm.

Jennie Lee attended Midgett's Chapel Methodist Church. Here Jerry became music director at the tender age of just 6 years old. He has served at Maury City's Church of God in Christ and now at Wortham Chapel Baptist Church in Alamo. His love for music, introduced to him at his mother's knee, coupled with a singing talent, plus much hard work have taken him far in life, to heights he could only have once dreamed of achieving.

Jerry attended school at Central High in Alamo before moving to Toledo, Ohio, where he graduated from Scott High School. Jerry then moved to Detroit where he got his start singing professionally. Jerry's first recording contract was with Brunswick Records. Under this label, he recorded a song called, "I Really Love You," with the Detroit





Symphony Orchestra and the Billy Beck Ohio Players, produced by Tony Hester. The recording was well received, especially in the United Kingdom, and became a classic hit of the eighties. Later, Jerry began recording for the Wright Record Label.

Jerry has had the opportunity to be a part of two Broadway musicals, the first being, "Your Arms Too Short to Box With God," based on the New Testament Book of Matthew. When Jerry left this play to join the production of "Please Don't Take My Rhythms and Blues," his role was taken over by Singer and Songwriter Al Green.

After performing a matinee one afternoon, Jerry was invited to a nearby studio to sing back-up with gospel singer Dorothy Norwood, whose recordings that day included "There's Got to be Rain in Your Life," which proved to be one of her biggest hits. Jerry has also had the privilege of singing back-up with the great Lena Horne.

Jerry is managed by Dr. Jazzii



Anderson, an artist in her own right. Jazzii, also a Crockett County native and the first African American to be awarded the key to the city of Alamo, has been honored by her home state with September 17 being named annual "Jazzii A. Day" in the state of Tennessee. When Jerry approached Jazzii, his former Lincoln Street neighbor and friend since school days, who had managed him in previous years, asking

her to be his manager once again, Jazzii, came out of retirement to do so, offering her encouragement, knowledge, and expertise. It was Jazzii who helped Jerry begin to collect royalties due him from previous projects.

Now Jerry has an unique opportunity. Soon he will record his third album. It has been a long-time dream of his to record live. Not only will his next album be recorded live, BUT it will be recorded live at Jerry's home church, Wortham Chapel, in his hometown of Alamo. It seems life for Jerry has come full circle.

Never before has a live recording taken place in Crockett County. The project has the full support of Wortham Chapel's minister Kirby Holloway and wife, Lady Lakeesha Holloway. Jerry has a close relationship with the Holloways, who have served at Wortham Chapel for a little over a year. Lakeesha grew up singing. Pastor Kirby sings with a quartet so the couple share a commonality in their love of music with Jerry.

It was not long after the Holloways came to Wortham Chapel that Jerry first heard Lakeesha sing. He immediately recognized a special talent in her soulful voice and told her, "You have got to get in the studio." Jerry, himself, made this happen. On the day of the interview, Lakeesha had just returned from recording in Detroit, "still on a high from being in Detroit and from being in the studio." Lakeesha's vocals will be heard on the song, "Thank you," which will be one of the songs featured on the upcoming live recording.

The new live album will feature other hymns including a remake of the song, "People Get Ready," and "Walk Around Heaven." In addition to Lady Lakeesha Holloway's vocals, other voices featured on the recording will include Rosemere and Roseann Matthews, Dr. Tony Booker and the Booker Production Choir, and Jerry's good friend and manager, Dr. Jazzii Anderson.

Grammy award winning producers Brothers Kern and Valdez

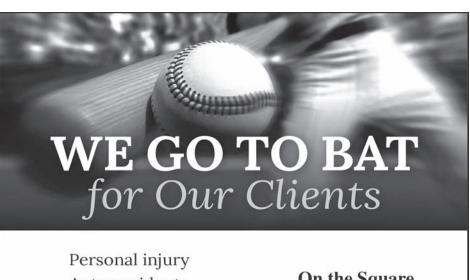
Brantley will have charge of the live production. West Tennessee's own Hikeem Smith Sound Production team will provide sound. Nationally known Roy Hill Video Services, of Jackson, will film the event.

The event, which is open to the public, free of charge, will take place over the span of two days and will be hosted by Dr. Jazzii Anderson. The dates are Friday, July 25th @ 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, July 26th @ 4:00 p.m. The live recordings will take place at Wortham Chapel Baptist Church, 37 West Church Street, Alamo, TN 38001. No children under 12 will be allowed due to the event being recorded live. Also, no devices for taping, recording, or streaming will be allowed. CDs and videos of the event will be available for purchase at a later time.

Today, Jerry once again lives in Alamo. While taking care of his grandmother and not actively pursuing his singing career, he began a cattle business which he continues to maintain. He has been a student of both The Tennessee Master Beef Producer Program and the advanced version of the class offered by UT Extension. He has been featured three times in the Tennessee Cattle Business Magazine and, in 2016, was named Cattle Producer of the Year.

Whether pertaining to his cattle business or his singing career, Jerry realizes he needs the Heavenly Father's blessing over everything he undertakes to do. He and the Holloways have prayed much over the upcoming live event and yearn for it to be used for the glory and honor of God. One song on the project which expresses the theme of the occasion, "Never Let You Go," speaks of an appreciation for the LORD, a desire for His Presence, and a determination to never let go of His hand.

Congratulations, Jerry, on a dream come true. Blessings on your new project. Your hometown and community celebrate with you your accomplishments as you come full circle in your life and in your music.



Auto accidents
Wrongful death
Medical malpractice
Motorcycle accidents
Workers' compensation

On the Square in Alamo and ready to serve Crockett County's legal needs.

Hughes Law Firm W. Taylor Hughes, Attorney

17 North Court St., Alamo 731-696-2889





God's Word is Truth

A Transformational Analysis Part 1



God's expectation for us - and His command – is that we would, of course, change everything about ourselves that is not pleasing to Him. This is the transformation that Paul mentions: "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ve transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" [Romans 12:1-2]. Have you been transformed by the renewing of your mind? Have you studied? "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" [2 Timothy 2:15]. "But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another. And indeed ye do it toward all the brethren which are in all Macedonia: but we beseech you, brethren, that ye increase more and more; And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you; That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing" [1 Thessalonians 4:9-12].

Have you studied the right material? "O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called: Which some professing have erred concerning the faith. Grace be with thee. Amen" [1 Timothy 6:20-21]. Understand that the word "science" just means knowledge. Many things taught

in "science" classes are truly falsely called "knowledge." Evolution actually doesn't even qualify as a "theory," because a theory is based on proven facts, which leaves out "the theory of evolution."

Have you started the renewal process? "That ve put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another. Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil. Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth. Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you. Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given Himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour" [Ephesians 4:22-5:2].

A major key to this transformational process

is seeking to have the mind of Christ – as commanded. What better way to be transformed than to be able to think like the only perfect being to walk upon this earth. ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross" [Philippians 2:2-8]. And get that mind: "For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ" [1 Corinthians 2:16]. That is how Paul and the other apostles were able to able to commit themselves one hundred percent to a lifetime of suffering in order to preach the gospel to the whole world.

"Be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind."

Please visit us at 2118 Johnsons Grove Road, Bells, TN 38006

church of Christ at Crossroads Charles Yawn Please visit us at: 2118 Johnsons Grove Road Bells, TN 30006









Residents Enjoy Fun Festival

Bells Assisted Living and Retirement Village held their 3rd Annual Fun Festival recently.

A big thank you to sponsor Infinite Rehab and Wellness Services of Jackson for bringing gifts and food for everyone. Also, thank you to Medical Center Home Heath Rep for coming to be a huge help!

Everyone had a great time and can't wait til the next time! Residents participated in a cake walk, bowling, water balloon toss, corn hole and many other games.

They all went to bed a little early after a fun filled day, staff included!

Bells RETIREMENT Village

840 sq ft apartments
24-hour security
housekeeping
2 meals a day
laundry services
Ages 60 & older
Parking available



Independent LivingFor Your Golden Years



323 Herndon Dr., Bells **731-663-3380**

What an Adventure!

Part 1 of the Story of Glad and Wanda Castellaw

BY JUDY POSTON (judyposton1963@gmail.com)

Wanda was his sister's roommate at Union University. When she and Glad first met, he was a student at U.T. Martin and was engaged to another girl. Wanda, herself, was in a serious relationship. Glad and his dog came in from a day of working in the field, hot, dirty, and grimy. His sister and Wanda were in his parent's vard. Wanda was dressed in a white pantsuit. Without hesitation, Glad's dog ran to Wanda, greeting her enthusiastically and promptly jumping up on her white pantsuit, dirty paws and

Time went by, and later, Glad's sister told him, concerning Wanda, "She's available." Having broken up with his fiancee', Glad, too, was available.

Glad went to pick up a hay baler from being repaired. While driving down the road, a piece from the hay baler suddenly flew up, and hit and broke the windshield of an oncoming car. Glad promised the car's driver he would pay for the repair of the windshield. He then left the hay baler on the side of the road. He would return later to fetch it home, but he had a date with



He would return later to fetch it home, but he had a date with D.C., attending the Washington Institute of Foreign Affairs, May, 2025

Wanda and he didn't want to be late

Glad raced to the Union campus to pick her up. One look at Wanda in her red mini-skirt, and the hay baler on the side of the road was completely forgotten. That night, the pair went to the movies. They saw, "Paint Your Wagon," the 1969 Western musical starring Lee Marvin and Clint Eastwood.

When Glad and Wanda came out of the theater, much to Glad's surprise, there stood his father. His dad, worried that Glad might be overwrought concerning the hay baler and the accident, had followed them and was waiting on them to exit the theater. "Are you alright?" Glad's dad asked, a look of concern clouding his face. Glad, once again looked over at Wanda standing beside him, stunning in her red miniskirt. "Yeah," he said, "I'm alright."

When Glad asked Wanda to marry him, he spoke of a life-time spent living on a farm, rural life in the peaceful countryside. "That," he says, "was the FIRST lie I told her." BUT, what an adventure......

Hollis and Retha Cogburn were Glad's maternal grandpar-



ents. They lived in Memphis and Hollis drove a horse drawn trolley for the city until they moved to Crockett Mills in the 1920s. Not long after the birth of Glad's mother, Bettye Jean, his grandmother died of Sepsis. Hollis was left alone to raise a baby daughter and a young son. Hollis asked his sister, Gussie, who had never married, to come live with the family and care for the children.

Bettye and her brother, John Hollis, attended school at Hamlett Robertson in Crockett Mills, where Bettve met her future husband, Leslie Gerald Castellaw. At Hamlett Robertson, Bettye was known for her prowess on the basketball court. At home, she worked on the farm and in the field beside her dad. In her spare time, the high-spirited young woman loved to go rabbit hunting. She held dreams of flying a plane one day. In the meantime following high school graduation, she attended Union University, preparing for a career in teaching.

In 1946, Bettye's brother, John, was living in Memphis and was employed by Firestone Tire and Rubber Company. His childhood friend, Finis Fennell, worked for Firestone as well. On a warm July day, the former Crockett County boys flew home for a visit in Finis's small plane, landing at the home of his parents. Later, that same day, as they started back to Memphis, the plane nosedived into a nearby field killing both young men. Finis was 20, John was 21. Bettye, working in a field close to the scene, witnessed the horrific accident firsthand.

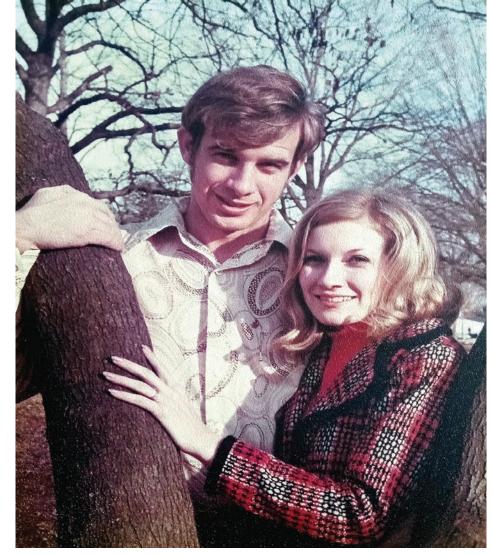
Following college graduation, Bettye returned home to teach at Hamlett Robertson. In 1948, she and Gerald, the son of Paul and Reba Castellaw, married in a Christmas Eve ceremony.

John "Glad" Castellaw was born in 1950. He was named in loving memory of his mom's brother. His family lived first on Colvett Road, later where Shane Prescott's home is today. The address where the Boar's Nest is located was his father's farm. Gerald was a livestock trader and also a meat processor.

Glad, like his parents, received his early education at Hamlett Robertson. When Glad was a senior at U.T. Martin, a Marine Corps Officer Selection Officer enticed Glad to join a rigorous training program at Officer Candidate School, Quantico, Virgin-

Glad attended Basic Infantry Training at Quantico, as well. When asked about his interests, he replied, "I'm a farm boy. Give me something big and green." The Marines assigned Glad to an "amtrax," an amphibious tractor. These vehicles were crucial for ship-to-shore operations. The "amtrax" allowed Marines to land on beaches and move inland.

Like his mom before her brother's accident, Glad always



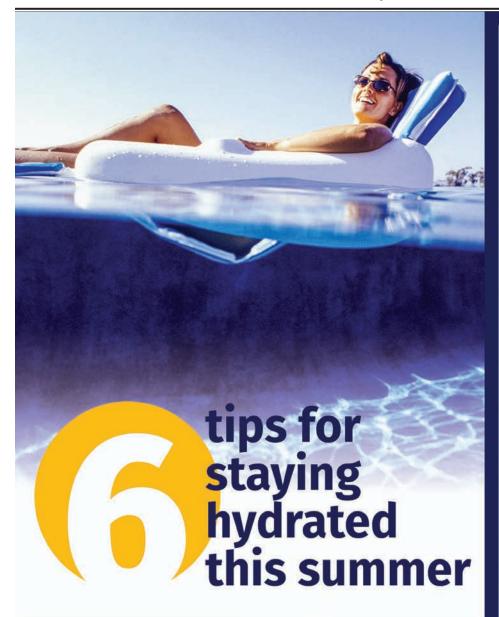
told her the news that the service was going to give him that opportunity, the memories of that sue of the Crockett Rocket and July day came back to haunt her. Part II of the adventurous story Glad, however, eventually flew

wanted to fly. However, when he 26 different aircraft for the Marines without incident.

> Stay tuned for the August isof Glad and Wanda Castellaw.



Puzzle On Page 6. S Р W В S Α 0 Ρ Ε R Α Ε D Α 1 R 0 R Ε L G С Ν S U R Ε Ε Ε F Ε 1 G Ε Ρ Α R Α Т V S О O E G L S S 0 D L L U В Α L S 0 Ε S Α L S S Α D Ε D Ν 0 Ν U S R Α Υ S В R Ε Н Ε W Ε Ε S S Ε Α Ε Р o s S Т В Α С Т N Ε D Ε Τ Α R Α S R Ε Т Α L 1 Α Τ 1 Ν G D Τ Ε G 0 S Ε Μ Α Ε S Т Α В L Ε R Ε Т S Т S 0 Ν Ε D Ε Ε S Ε S D



Summer is marked by hot and humid conditions. After all, the band The Lovin' Spoonful didn't sing, "Hot town, summer in the city. Back of my neck getting dirty and gritty" because the summer weather is crisp and cool. Although summer temperatures can make a day at the beach or in the pool ideal, that rising mercury also can contribute to dehydration. The Mayo Clinic advises that water is critical to every cell, tissue and organ in the human body. The body relies on water to function properly. Water helps to regulate body temperature, flush waste from

the body, lubricate and cushion joints, and promote healthy digestion. And that's just the start. So when temperatures climb and the body begins sweating to cool off, it is vital to replenish lost fluids at a faster rate. The U.S. National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine says women should consume 2.7 liters of fluid per day, while men need 3.7 liters. These amounts increase if one is exercising, sweating, has an illness like a fever, or is vomiting. The following are six ways to stay properly hydrated to avoid adverse reactions during hot summer days.

Consume a glass of water when you wake up. Start the day off with some water to give you an energy boost and get your metabolism moving.

Coffee and tea count toward fluid intake.
Drinking your favorite tea or coffee is an another way to take in fluids. A 2016 meta-analysis published in the Journal of Science and Medicine in Sport found that caffeine doesn't contribute to dehydration for healthy adults, so

having a cup or two

should be fine.

Certain foods are hydrating as well.
Hydrating foods include cucumbers, celery, tomatoes, watermelon, strawberries, grapefruit, and peppers. The Mayo Clinic says the average person gets 20 percent of his fluid intake from food.



Make water more fun. Add unsweetened flavoring to water if you find plain water too bland. You can squeeze in lemon or lime juice, or float cucumber or apple slices in the water for some flavor.

Reach for calorie-free beverages before food. It's easy to mistake the signs of dehydration for hunger. By drinking a glass of water or another unsweetened beverage prior to every meal, you can stay hydrated and reduce the amount of food you eat. This can be part of a healthy weight loss plan.

Occasionally consume electrolyte powders and drinks. Working out in the heat or sweating profusely can unbalance electrolytes in the body. The Cleveland Clinic says electrolytes are substances that help the body regulate chemical reactions and maintain balance between fluids inside and outside of your cells. They include sodium, calcium and potassium. An electrolyteinfused beverage can help replenish these lost substances. Staying hydrated is essential at all times, but it's especially important when summer temperatures can make loss of body fluid more significant.

Death Notice

Betty Lou Webb passed from life here to be received in Heaven on Monday June 2, 2025. A beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, wife, and friend.

The daughter of Thomas Tavern Crabtree & Faye Laverne Taylor Crabtree was born on Valentine's Day in 1933.

Betty's life was defined by her incredible love for her family. She was preceded in death by her husband Billy Neal Webb. She was a loving wife to Billy Neal Webb, sharing over 65 years together. Their love was a cornerstone of Betty's life, and together, they raised three children, Billy Neal Webb Jr., (Anna Margaret) Laura Edwards, Shirley Williams, (James Harris) eight grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren, all of whom carry a piece of her heart.

Family was everything to Betty. She not only nurtured and cared for her own children but extended

Betty Lou Webb February 14, 1933 to June 2, 2025



that same love to her grandchildren: Gary Lee Edwards, Justin Edwards, Alesha Edwards, Melissa Webb Williams, Dan Webb, Misti Floyd Litland, Cara Floyd Konecci, and George Floyd Jr. Great grandchildren include: Leif, Gunnar & Elin

Litland, Josh Edwards, Makenzie Edwards, Conner Konecci, Caroline Webb, Hadley, Charley, Marley & Allyanne Floyd.

Betty was a woman of many talents and an unwavering work ethic. She earned her LPN license at 39 years of age and worked at the Women's Clinic in Jackson, Tennessee, where she touched countless lives with her compassion and care. But her work didn't stop there—she also became a licensed realtor at the age of 50 plus years. She worked alongside her husband Billy Neal in their family business, Webb Realty.

Her energy, drive, and dedication were evident in everything she did. Beyond her professional accomplishments, Betty found joy in the simple pleasures of life. She loved spending time with her family, and at the Webb family home by the Tennessee River. This was a place of many happy memories—gathering with loved ones and friends.

Betty and Billy enjoyed traveling together, making memories in new places and continuing to grow closer as they explored the world side

Betty was also an active member of Walnut Hill Baptist Church, a church she grew up going to. Her involvement in the church was just another testament to her caring nature and desire to serve others.

Graveside services were held on Wednesday, June 4th at Walnut Hill Cemetery in Bells conducted by Bro. Troy Crossnoe. The family request that memorials be directed to Walnut Hill Cemetery Fund. Ronk Funeral Home had charge of the services.

Betty's legacy will live on in the hearts of her family and all the lives she touched. While we will miss her deeply, we take comfort in knowing she is now resting peacefully, reunited with loved ones who have gone before her.

We All Scream for Ice Cream, All Year!

Few treats are more popular on cream is a favorite all year long. a warm day than ice cream. With its rich flavor and cooling nature, ice cream is perfect in a cone, cup, cake, or even as a sidekick to a brownie or piece of pie. Summer may be the season when ice cream is enjoyed the most and many people have fond memories of chasing down the neighborhood ice cream truck on summer afternoons, but ice

The number of ice cream flavors is only limited by the imaginations of ice cream shop owners. Despite the infinite number of flavor combinations, certain ice cream flavors are more popular than others. According to the International Dairy Foods Association 2022 Ice Cream & Frozen Novelty Trends Survey, these flavors are tops in the eyes of Americans.

- 1. Chocolate
- 2. Cookies 'N Cream
- 3. Vanilla
- 4. Strawberry
- 5. Chocolate Chip
- 6. Cookie Dough
- 7. Butter Pecan
- 8. Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough
- 9. Caramel
- 10. Salted Caramel

Vanilla stands as the global ice cream favorite, but some key flavors also stand out in countries around the world. In Japan, Green Tea is a popular flavor, Venezuelans prefer Banana, and in Thailand Coconut reigns supreme.

Ice cream preferences vary across the globe. However, ice cream in all flavors and forms is a beloved dessert few can resist.



The Crockett Rocket is honored to memorialize your loved one with an obituary and photo for a fee of \$25.

For more info., contact Michael Harrison at (731) 414-4924, via e-mail to rocketmail68@yahoo.com, online at www.thecrockettnews.com

The deadline to submit materials for *The Crockett Rocket* is the last Friday of each month.

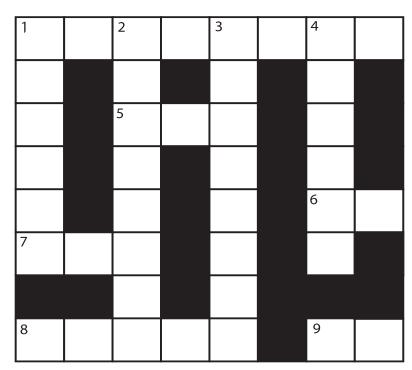




When enjoying parks, it is important to avoid close encounters with these.

Answer: Wild animals

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1. Figure out the route
- 5. Area of land
- 6. "City of Angels" (abbr.)
- 7. Breakfast food
- 8. Green areas used for recreation
- 9. Opposite of "yes"

DOWN

- 1. Plants, animals and the landscape
- 2. Person who lives in a village
- 4. Pathways to hike

- 3. Vacations, trips

1. Nature 2. Villager 3. Getaways 4. Trails UM0(T

1. Navigate 5. Lot 6. LA 7. Egg 8. Parks 9. No Across

:saewers



1850: Vega becomes the first star (other than the Sun) to be photographed.

1902: Willis Carrier creates the first air conditioner in Buffalo, NY.

1955: Disneyland is dedicated and opened by Walt Disney in California.

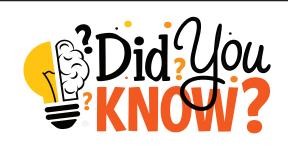


money for a particular purpose, like conservation



English: Nature Spanish: Naturaleza

Italian: Natura French: Nature **German:** Natur



"Forest bathing" started in Japan and is the process of spending time in nature. There



is growing research to show that it promotes overall health.





Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: RV





If you need an oil change, to purchase new tires or to align your tires, we got you covered - car, tractor or recreational trailers. Accessories, too!













