

Happy Thanksgiving!



Did you know? The American Job Center in Humboldt offers free workshops for job seekers who want to improve their interview skills, financial literacy, computer skills, or even start a business! Check out the upcoming workshop schedule below:

- **12/1/16, 9:00 AM – Job Search: Focus, Find, & Get the Job**
- **12/8/16, 9:00 AM – Interviews: Present Your Best Self**
- **12/21/16, 9:30 AM – Managing Your Money**

Call 731-784-5221 to register or learn more about workshops, job openings, scholarships for school, career advising services, skills assessments, and other FREE American Job Center services.

This project is funded under an agreement with the State of Tennessee. Dyersburg State Community College serves as fiscal agent and administrative entity. EOE. Auxiliary aids and services available on request. TDD# 731-286-8383.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

WHEREAS, default has occurred in the performance of the covenants, terms, and conditions of a Deed of Trust Note dated January 23, 2004, and the Deed of Trust of even date securing the same, recorded January 27, 2004, in Book No. 786, at Page 331, in Office of the Register of Deeds for Gibson County, Tennessee, executed by Ethel Marsh, conveying certain property therein described to Arnold M. Weiss, Esq. as Trustee for Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc.; and the undersigned, Wilson & Associates, P.L.L.C., having been appointed Successor Trustee by U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor in interest to Bank of America, National Association, as Trustee, successor by merger to LaSalle Bank National Association, as Trustee for Wells Fargo Home Equity Trust Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2004-1.

NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable; and that an agent of Wilson & Associates, P.L.L.C., as Successor Trustee, by virtue of the power, duty, and authority vested in and imposed upon said Successor Trustee, by U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor in interest to Bank of America, National Association, as Trustee, successor by merger to LaSalle Bank National Association, as Trustee for Wells Fargo Home Equity Trust Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2004-1, will, on **December 6, 2016 on or about 12:00 PM, at the Gibson County Courthouse, Trenton, Tennessee**, offer for sale certain property hereinafter described to the highest bidder FOR **certified funds** paid at the conclusion of the sale, or credit bid from a bank or other lending entity pre-approved by the successor trustee. The sale is free from all exemptions, which are expressly waived in the Deed of Trust, said property being real estate situated in Gibson County, Tennessee, and being more particularly described as follows:

BEING bounded on the North by Nowell; on the South by Carroll; on the East by Street and on West by Street, containing one (1) lot, and being the property conveyed to J. O. Long by decree of the Chancery Court of Gibson County, Tennessee, which is of record in Minute Book 53, at page 172, in the Office of the Clerk and Master at Trenton, Tennessee, and a certified copy of which is of record in Deed Book 141, page 195, in the Register's Office of Gibson County, Tennessee. (Legal description taken from prior deed.)

ALSO KNOWN AS: 516 Factory Street, Trenton, TN 38382-2046

This sale is subject to all matters shown on any applicable recorded plat; any unpaid taxes; any restrictive covenants, easements, or setback lines that may be applicable; any statutory rights of redemption of any governmental agency, state or federal; any prior liens or encumbrances as well as any priority created by a fixture filing; and to any matter that an accurate survey of the premises might disclose. In addition, the following parties may claim an interest in the above-referenced property:

Ethel Marsh

The sale held pursuant to this Notice may be rescinded at the Successor Trustee's option at any time. The right is reserved to adjourn the day of the sale to another day, time, and place certain without further publication, upon announcement at the time and place for the sale set forth above. W&A No. 317976

DATED October 31, 2016

WILSON & ASSOCIATES, P.L.L.C.,
Successor Trustee

FOR SALE INFORMATION, VISIT
WWW.MYFIR.COM and WWW.REALTYTRAC.COM

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR INVOLUNTARY TERMINATION OF MEDICARE /MEDICAID PROVIDER AGREEMENT

Notice is hereby given that effective November 27, 2016, the agreement between Milan Health Care Center, located at 8060 Stinson Street, Milan, Tennessee and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, as provider of nursing services in the Health Insurance for the Aged and Disabled Program (Medicare/Medicaid), is to be terminated.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has determined that Milan Health Care Center, of Milan, Tennessee is not in compliance with the Requirements for Participation. The Medicare/Medicaid program will not make payment for inpatient nursing services to residents who are admitted after November 27, 2016. For residents admitted prior to November 27, 2016 payment may continue for a maximum of 30 days for nursing services. Such payment is specifically limited to covered services through the close of business December 27, 2016.

Sandra M. Pace
Associate Regional Administrator
Division of Survey and Certification

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE

Sale at public auction will be on **December 16, 2016 at 10:00AM local time**, at the south door, Gibson County Courthouse, One Court Square, Trenton, Tennessee pursuant to Deed of Trust executed by Clarissa Williams and husband, Herbert Williams, to Wesley D. Turner, Trustee, as trustee for Argent Mortgage Company, LLC on December 7, 2006 at Book 898, Page 1897; conducted by Shapiro & Ingle, LLP, a Tennessee limited liability partnership, having been appointed Substitute or Successor Trustee, all of record in the Gibson County Register's Office. Default has occurred in the performance of the covenants, terms, and conditions of said Deed of Trust and the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable.

Party Entitled to Enforce the Debt: U.S. Bank National Association, as Indenture Trustee on behalf of and with respect to Ajax Mortgage Loan Trust 2015-B, Mortgage-Backed Notes, Series 2015-B, its successors and assigns.

The following real estate located in Gibson County, Tennessee, will be sold to the highest call bidder:

Described property located at Gibson County, Tennessee, to wit:

Beginning at an iron pin set in the south margin of King Street (said margin being 25 feet each side of centerline) and being the northwest corner of the lot herein described, thence with the south margin of King Street, North 88 degrees 36 minutes 07 seconds East, 80.00 feet to an iron pin set at the northeast corner of this tract, said point also being the northwest corner of Lot 18, thence with the east line of the tract herein described, South 01 degrees 23 minutes 53 seconds East, 129.29 feet to an iron pin set at the southeast corner of this tract, said point being in the north line of Shoaf, (DB 388, P 331) thence with the south line of the tract herein described, South 88 degrees 43 minutes 41 seconds West, 80.00 feet to an iron pin set at the southwest corner of this tract, said point also being the southeast corner of Lot 10 thence with the west line of the tract herein described, North 01 degrees 23 minutes 53 seconds West, 129.12 feet to the point of beginning and containing within these calls 10,322.42 square feet as surveyed by Surveying Services, Inc., 41 Heritage Square, Jackson, Tennessee. This being Lot 17 of Country Corner Estates. Recorded in Plat Cabinet "C", Slide "C-28", revised to Slide "C-74" in the Register's Office of Gibson County, Tennessee. Being the same property conveyed to the grantor herein by deed of record in Deed Book 898, Page 1895 in the Register's Office of Gibson County, Tennessee.

Street Address: 4121 King Dr, Milan, Tennessee 38358
Parcel Number: 123D-B-17.00
Current Owner(s) of Property: Clarissa Williams

The street address of the above described property is believed to be 4121 King Dr, Milan, Tennessee 38358, but such address is not part of the legal description of the property sold herein and in the event of any discrepancy, the legal description herein shall control.

This sale is subject to, without limitation, all matters shown on any applicable recorded plat; any unpaid taxes; any restrictive covenants, easements, or setback lines that may be applicable; any statutory right of redemption of any governmental agency, state or federal; any prior liens or encumbrances including those created by a fixture filing or any applicable homeowners' association dues or assessments; all claims or other matters, whether of record or not, which may encumber the purchaser's title and any matter that an accurate survey of the premises might disclose.

The following parties may claim an interest in the above-referenced property to be affected by the foreclosure:

Any judgment creditor or lien holder with an interest subordinate to the said Deed of Trust or any party claiming by, through, or under any of the foregoing. Such parties known to the Substitute Trustee may include: None.

Any right of equity of redemption, statutory and otherwise, and homestead are waived in accord with the terms of said Deed of Trust, and the title is believed to be good, but the undersigned will sell and convey only as Substitute Trustee.

The right is reserved to adjourn the day of the sale to another day, time, and place certain without further publication, upon announcement at the time and place for the sale set forth above. If you purchase a property at the foreclosure sale, the entire purchase price is due and payable at the conclusion of the auction in the form of a certified/bank check made payable to or endorsed to Shapiro & Ingle, LLP. No personal checks will be accepted. To this end, you must bring sufficient funds to outbid the lender and any other bidders. Insufficient funds will not be accepted. Amounts received in excess of the winning bid will be refunded to the successful purchaser at the time the foreclosure deed is delivered.

This property is being sold with the express reservation that the sale is subject to confirmation by the lender or trustee. This sale may be rescinded only by the Substitute Trustee at any time. If the Substitute Trustee rescinds the sale, the purchaser shall only be entitled to a return of any money paid towards the purchase price and shall have no other recourse. Once the purchaser tenders the purchase price, the Substitute Trustee may deem the sale final in which case the purchaser shall have no remedy. The real property will be sold AS IS, WHERE IS, with no warranties or representations of any kind, express or implied, including without limitation, warranties regarding condition of the property or marketability of title.

This office may be a debt collector. This may be an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained may be used for that purpose.

Shapiro & Ingle, LLP, a Tennessee limited liability partnership
Substitute Trustee
10130 Perimeter Parkway, Suite 400
Charlotte, NC 28216
Phone: (704) 333-8107
Fax: (704) 333-8156
http://www.shapiro-ingle.com

File No. 08-005351



Deadline for the Mirror-Exchange Letters to Santa section is Friday, December 9th.

THE MIRROR EXCHANGE

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VOL. 51 NO. 32

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

\$1 PER COPY

Feds come down hard on Milan Health Care

By Victor Parkins

The CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) has ruled that Milan Health Care is out of compliance of requirements established by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

As a result of the findings from the federal agency, Milan Health Care can no longer accept insurance payments from CMS for inpatient nursing services to residents admitted after November 27th. All payments from CMS will cease at the close of business on December 27th, 2016, according to a detailed, 199 page report that was provided to the Mirror-Exchange.

A letter from CMS dated Nov. 18th that was addressed to MHC Administrator John Simonton was titled, "Imposition Notice-On-Going Immediate Jeopardy".

The CMS reported that 'Immediate Jeopardy' to residents and staff was identified on November 4th while a survey by state workers took place at the facility.

Immediate Jeopardy is a situation in which the provider's non-compliance has caused, or is likely to cause, serious injury, harm, impairment, or death to a resident.

"The survey found that your facility was not in substantial compliance with the participation requirements, and that conditions in your facility constituted 'Immediate Jeopardy' to residents' health and safety and standard quality of care," the document said. "The 'Immediate Jeopardy' was identified to exist on March 31, 2016, and is considered ongoing. Based on the findings of the November

4th survey, your Medicare provider agreement was terminated at 11:59 p.m. on November 27th."

The CMS placed an advertisement in the Mirror-Exchange on November 22nd to notify the public of the change.

The CMS alleges that MHC used unnecessary physical and chemical restraints that placed specific residents at great risk for incontinence, skin breakdown, accidents, increased agitation and social isolation.

Although Milan Health Care did not provide comments for this article, it will reportedly close on December 27th. MHC is required to provide written notification to residents of the facility or their legal representatives about the im-

(Cont. on pg. 3)



NO MORE ADMISSIONS - All new admissions to Milan Health Care Center have been suspended by the state of Tennessee and the nursing home can no longer receive payments from Medicare or Medicaid.

Phinnessee enters 'best interest' plea

By Crystal Burns

In an emotional appearance in Gibson County Circuit Court Monday, Shaun Phinnessee entered an Alford or "best interest" plea to avoid a jury trial that was scheduled to start Wednesday.



Phinnessee

Phinnessee, a former Gibson County deputy under former sheriff Chuck Arnold, was charged with one count of theft of \$1,000 or more and one count of official misconduct. Phinnessee pled to one count of theft under \$500, a misdemeanor, and received one year of supervised probation and judicial diver-

(Cont. on pg. 3)

Prevention Coalition Health Summit tonight

Prescription drug abuse is running rampant across the state of Tennessee. According to a 2015 study by the Centers for Disease Control, our state ranks second in the nation for opioid prescribing and fourth for overdose deaths, killing approximately 76 people per day.

For that reason, the Milan Prevention Coalition and the City of Milan will be partnering to host a Town Hall/Health Summit to discuss how best to combat the problem in our community.

The Town Hall/Health Summit will be held tonight, December 6, at the Hawkins-Whitby FEMA building in Downtown Milan at 6:00

(Cont. on pg. 3)

'Tis the Season



SANTA'S HELPERS - The crew of R&R Towing took third place in the Milan Christmas Parade's vehicle category with their miniature trucking rig, delivering candy and Christmas cheer to the hundreds gathered along Main Street. Photo by Logan Watson.

Milan celebrates the season with tree lighting, parade

By Logan Watson

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas here in Milan. Wreaths and candy canes line the streets on utility poles and homes shine bright through the darkness like Christ's love for us all.

Mayor B.W. Beasley began the celebration of the season last Tuesday night, holding the city's first annual Christmas tree lighting at City Hall. Rain and storms threatened to put a damper on the inaugural event,

but still close to 100 residents lined the sidewalks of Main Street, waiting for the mayor to throw the switch on the city's display.

The cool drizzle soon stopped and the skies cleared long enough for the crowd to join together in a few Christmas carols before the mayor began his countdown. Once the display illuminated downtown, members of the Milan Middle and High School bands serenaded those in attendance with Christmas music as Santa and Mrs. Claus greeted the children along the

sidewalks and took photos with families in front of the tree.

"It's was just so nice to see everyone gathered together to share the moment with their loved ones," said Mayor Beasley. "It really makes you feel all warm and fuzzy inside."

The following Thursday saw even more gather together in the spirit of the season for the city's 25th Annual Christmas parade. From Bancorp-South to City Hall, wide-eyed children eagerly anticipated the sights

(Cont. on pg. 2)

Director announces new Principal, Asst. Principal at Milan High School

MSSD School Board in Brief

By Logan Watson

Milan High School is officially under new leadership for the immediate future.

Director of Schools Jonathan Criswell made a formal announcement at last Monday's meeting of the MSSD Board of Education, naming former MHS Assistant Principal and Athletic Director Greg Scott as the school's new Interim Principal.

Scott replaces former principal John "Flipper" Burks, who was relieved of his administrative duties at the school earlier last month. Director Criswell stated that Burks has since been transferred to an Academic Coach position within the MSSD.

Joining Scott in the MHS front office will be Guy Causey, who Criswell named Interim Assistant Principal. In addition to his new administrative duties, Causey will continue to serve as Milan High School's Career and Technical Education Director.

The Board made no statements about Criswell's appointments during the meeting, but Board member Yolanda Lett did inquire as to whether or not Scott's new position would come with an increase in pay. Director Criswell informed the Board that neither of the interim positions would be granted a salary increase.

The Board also approved a grant application request made by Tammy Rushing and Natalie Alexander that would help teachers at Milan Elementary improve the literacy skills of their students. Rushing and Alexander requested that they be allowed to apply for the Tennessee Department of Education's "Read to Be Ready" mini-grant, which would provide the MSSD

(Cont. on pg. 3)

County employees undergo first random drug tests

By Steve Short

Gibson Co. employees participated in random drug testing for the first time Dec. 2 as part of the county's effort to qualify for enrollment in the state's Tennessee Drug Free Workplace program.

The county has been in the program since spring 2016, according to Finance Director Greg Pillow. He said the county has to test a percentage of employees to qualify

for the state program.

64 employees were tested Friday, about one fourth the total, said Pillow. One employee selected did not participate, because the employee was involved in court, Pillow said.

"As long as we've got enough employees to hit our percentage each year, we're fine," said Mr. Pillow about the number of employees who were tested.

Judge Mark Agee said in a media interview Mon., Dec. 4, that he was busy with Civil



Pillow

Court Friday, and the timing of the drug testing (9 am - 12 noon) did not fit with his schedule. Agee said he had been feeling "under the weather" but did not have anything to hide related to the test.

"I didn't decline or refuse to participate," said Judge Agee. "Friday just didn't work out for me. If they want to have me do it today (Monday), I'll do it. I'm fine with taking a drug screen. When this first came up, and they said the county would do this policy, I said, 'Fine, if it helps with the (insurance) premiums.'" Agee said later he would take a drug test Monday.

A Selmer-based company

oversaw the testing. A list of employee names were submitted to a computer program, which randomly picked who would be tested. The drug free policy says employees will undergo urinalysis screening or hair testing for drugs, such as: marijuana, cocaine, amphetamines, opiates, phencyclidine or abuse of drugs prescribed by a physician.

Greg Pillow said the cost of workers' comp insurance was the driving factor behind adopting the new policy. The county can also benefit by detecting employees who might be working while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

"Our insurance carrier came to the county commission and Insurance Committee and pushed this," said Mr. Pillow. "(The insurance agent) said, 'You've got a big discount coming if you do this.' We were able to save close to \$14,000 in workers' comp premiums over a year. There are costs associated with the drug testing, and that reduces the savings. But even if we break even, we are still doing our employees a service."

The Insurance Committee strongly recommended adopting the drug free policy. County leaders gave several reasons in the original proposal, saying: "Alcohol-

ism and the illegal use of drugs lead to increased accidents and medical claims and can lead to the destruction of an employee's health. Employees who abuse drugs and alcohol pose a danger not only to themselves and their fellow employees, but also to Gibson Co. property. In addition, the increased cost medical costs incurred by employees with untreated drug or alcohol problems, the decreased productivity of these individuals, and resulting increases in absenteeism and turnover can adversely affect Gibson Co. productivity."

(Cont. on pg. 3)



We treat little Santas too. Walk-in medical care for the entire family



Editorials, Opinions, Letters-to-the-editor

Director announces... (cont. from page 1)

with a minimum of \$5,000 to purchase high-quality, complex books for students that promote knowledge and vocabulary building, as well as books for independent reading that students would find interesting.

Rushing told the Board that literacy levels for third and fourth graders in the MSSD have not improved as much as they should have over the years, and that the Read to Be Ready program would help students maintain and build reading skills over the summer break. The grant would provide 10 teachers with a \$250 stipend for serving as Read to Be Ready Coaches, with the remaining \$2,500 to be spent on materials.

Special Ed. Programs - MHS Special Education instructors April Gonzales, Lynn Gonzales and LeighAnn Dunlap shared the success of the MSSD's various Special Education programs with the Board, including the Best Buddies program and the district's new Work-based Learning program, which prepares the MSSD's Special Education students with the training and skills to become productive members of the workforce. The Best Buddies program, which is only in its second year at MHS, has already become a massive success, according to faculty advisor April Gonzales.

"The support we have received has been overwhelming," said Gonzales. "We have 44 members in the club, and the students that have taken interest in it are totally committed to the program. They've grown up with our Special Education students and they're just so excited about it." Several students and their "buddies" were in attendance at the meeting. The MSSD's Work-based Learning program has also been a hit with both students with disabilities and members of the community, said Lynn Gonzales, the program's director. There are currently nine disabled MHS students that go out into the community and either assist or hold down jobs of their own at participating businesses in Milan, including the YMCA, Vestal Automotive and the Milan middle and high school cafeterias. Gonzales told the Board that the students in the program, some of whom are much older than traditional high school students, need a place to go after they age out of the MSSD's RISE program, and that the Work-based Learning program helps them build employability skills that help them contribute to their community. Three of the students in the program even receive paychecks at their jobs. According to Gonzales,

'Deplorable, working middle class' defeated Ms. Hillary Clinton

Editor,

After Mrs. Clinton came out of her "Wha' happened?" fugue, she began to analyze why she lost her bid for the presidency.

Her conclusion: It was the FBI's fault, for releasing the information that thousands of unreported e-mails had turned up.

This information, coming so close to the election, was undoubtedly a factor, along with the e-mails already reported, and Mrs. Clinton's equivocations to the Congressional committee, and to the American people via her campaign ads.

But the underlying reason for Mrs. Clinton's defeat was that the American people - the "deplorable" one, middle-class Americans who work to support their families (when they can find a job), who may or may not go to church, whose children attend public school, who shop at Wal-Mart and eat at McDonald's - didn't want the kind of government that Mrs. Clinton was proposing, which was basically a revved-up continuation of the dismal Obama years. We, the people, have spoken clearly, repudiating the super-care state that has signally failed to live up to its promises. We want a change in direction.

And incidentally, the map of the election results illustrates the virtues of the Electoral College, allowing the people in the fly-over states to have a voice.

Perry Boling
Humboldt

the program is already a success, with 25 students waiting to attend the class next year.

Director's Evaluation - Board Chairman Sid Crocker provided the other Board members with a proposed evaluation instrument to use to evaluate Director of Schools Jonathan Criswell. The tool mirrors the instruments already used by the MSSD to evaluate their teachers, rating the Director's performance in 46 criteria on a scale of 1-5, including his relationships with the Board, staff and the community, leadership skills, strategic planning, management of the MSSD's facilities and finances, student achievement and his fulfillment of his job requirements. The Board approved the evaluation tool unanimously.

Revisions & Clarifications - The Board addressed a number of issues that needed to be updated, including budget items and policies. Prior to the meeting, MSSD Supervisor of Special Programs informed Director Criswell and the Board that line items within the Title I-A and IDEA budgets needed to be amended due to under-budgeting, and that the School Nutrition Budget needed to be amended to reflect the grant that was received earlier in the year to purchase a Combi Oven for the elementary school.

It was also brought to the Board's attention that the recently approved policy on Graduation Activities (4.606), which was set by the Board to go into effect at the beginning of the 2017-18 school year was intended by the Tennessee School Boards Association to go into effect immediately. Director Criswell stated that the revised policy would go into effect immediately and allow for students who had completed 10 or more community service hours to be recognized for such at the MHS Graduation Ceremony. Criswell also wished to clarify that the MSSD's policy on Extended Contracts (5.211), which was approved along with a larger group of policies at the October meeting, was intended to be deleted. When the Board approved the policy, they were, in fact, approving its deletion.

Celebrating Success - Several MSSD students were recognized for their achievements at last Monday night's Board meeting. The Board congratulated Autumn Webb, who recently won the prestigious Hendrix Scholarship Competition at Bethel University, which earned her four years of fully-paid tuition, room and board at the university. MHS Marching Band Drum Majors Charity Hopper and Olivia Dickerson were recognized for their First Place finish at the State Division II Marching Band Championship last month, along with the rest of the MHS Marching Bulldogs, who recorded their highest ranked State Competition finish in 34 years. Jacob Rimmer, Offensive Lineman for the Bulldogs, was also recognized for his recent honor of finishing as runner-up in the Tennessee Titans' Mr. Football competition.

It's Crystal Clear Smoky Mountain Rain

By Crystal Burns

When I was a kid, while my brothers were singing Pinkard & Bowden hits, I had the songs of Conway Twitty and Ronnie Milsap stuck in my head.

Snippets of the songs, anyway. Remember when infomercials sold music? That's how Byron and Clay learned "I Lobster But Never Flounder," a tune that makes an appearance at nearly all of our family get-togethers.

The song titles would scroll on the screen; the highlighted ones were what you were hearing at that moment.

I did a mean impression of Conway - "And as I taste your tender kisses, I can tell you've never been this far before." I didn't know what the lyrics meant; I just knew he sang it low on his register with kind of whisper effect. I thought it was funny, maybe because I didn't know any grown men with perms who also wore their shirts unbuttoned halfway down their chests.

Ronnie Milsap, the piano man who made his name in a guitar town, had a long list of hits scrolling on my screen. "Stranger In My House" and "Smoky Mountain Rain" were my favorites.

Far later in life, I delved into Mr. Milsap's extensive catalog for real and found dozens of songs to vie for favorite status. When I found out the Country Music Hall of Fame member would be performing at The Dixie Carter Performing Arts & Academic Enrichment Center in Huntingdon, I wrote it on my calendar - in ink.

His Saturday night show sold out, and it did not disappoint.

A few years ago when I made friends with The Dixie staff and started writing press releases for them and going to a lot of shows, I bought a small notebook to keep in my purse. I got tired of leaving concerts unable to remember every song I'd just heard so I started writing down the set list.

Realizing this elevated me to a new level of nerdiness, I dropped the notebook a couple of shows ago. But with a guy with 40 No. 1 hits to his credit on stage, I knew I would need help keeping up. I wanted to know how many of my favorites he covered. By the fourth number, I put away my pen and paper.

Through three medleys of his classics, Ronnie Milsap hit "Any Day Now" (my current favorite), "What A Difference You Made In My Life" (a close second), "Pure Love" (purely infectious) and "I Wouldn't Have Missed It For The World" (an easy sing-along). I would love to have heard full versions, but I appreciate how he cleverly packed in even more songs. He did "Stranger In My House" and "Smoky Mountain Rain" in their entirety after intermission.

I learned something too. Ronnie Milsap worked with Elvis on The King's hit "Kentucky Rain." He said Elvis would instruct him to put more "thunder" on his piano. Years later, when Mr. Milsap was recording "Smoky Mountain Rain," he wondered if the same approach would work on that song. It did, and what his producer warned was a "regional" song became a national hit. It's also a Tennessee state song and one that took on special meaning for all of us at The Dixie Saturday night.

Our friends in Sevier County are suffering after devastating wildfires decimated portions of Gatlinburg and Pigeon Forge. The decimated streets covered in ash look like what we see in war torn countries where bombs going off are a daily occurrence. One local likened it to the apocalypse.

The people who lost their loved ones, their homes, their businesses, and their jobs need our prayers. They also need financial help if you're so inclined to give. Please make sure you give to reputable organizations to make sure that your money goes to those in need. If you can't give now, that's okay. When you're saving for your summer vacation or a weekend getaway, consider taking it in the Smokies. The tourism dollars will greatly aid the people of East Tennessee and will lift our entire state.

'Dog golf booster club says thanks

Editor,

On behalf of Coach Donny Joyner, MHS Golf Team and the MHS Golf Booster Club we would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all the supporters this past year for helping make the 2016 golf season a success. A special thank you goes to the Milan Golf & Country Club for all their support they give to both the MHS Golf team and to our booster club. With all of our contributions it has allowed our team to meet and exceed their goals. Your support enabled us to once again represent the City of Milan and Milan High School in

district, regional and state competition. Thank you again for your continued dedication season after season to help make this a winning endeavor.

On a personal note I would like to say that it has been an honor serving as booster club president for the past two years. I feel with the incoming players and parents that we will continue to have a team that the community can be proud of and would continue to support.

Thanks, God bless and Go Bulldogs!
Ed Webb
President - MHS Golf Booster Club

Feds come down... (cont. from page 1)

pending closure and assure that they will be transferred to the most appropriate facility in terms of location, services and quality. Failure to properly help relocate residents or to admit new ones would subject Simonton to a \$100,000 fine, according to the report.

The CMS levied a Civil Money Penalty against MHC in the amount of \$7,491.00 per day effective March 31-December 27th, 2016.. MHC can either comply with the standards from CMS or terminate their agreement to accept insurance payments.

A report of the survey stated that specific residents referred to as patients, #61, #62 and #47 were not monitored properly and the use of chemical and physical restraints were not used appropriately. The report states that MHC did not have a policy for such restraints.

On March 30th, '16, patient #62 died at Milan Health Care and no cause of death, information or review was provided to CMS.

The survey describes in great detail how patient #47 was struck repeatedly with a lanyard of keys by a nurse. That event was caught on vid-

eo and resulted in the arrest of Christy Dawn Murphy. Officials from the CMS later discovered that Murphy had been charged with Manufacture of Methamphetamine on two occasions in 2009 and 2010. Additionally, her license was on probation status while she worked at MHC. Murphy was charged with Knowing Abuse, Neglect, or Exploitation.

The report concludes that MHC failed to ensure an effective Quality Assurance program that recognized and developed an appropriate plan to ensure residents were free from physical and chemical restraints, thus protecting them from abuse and neglect.

According to their website, Milan Health Care, 8060 Stinson Road, is a skilled nursing and long-term care home where up to 66 residents can live. Milan Health Care is owned by Cornerstone Health Care based in Clayton, North Carolina. Cornerstone also owns Douglas Nursing Home of Milan, Oak Manor in McKenzie, Pymayra in Clarksville, Pleasant View HC in Bolivar and Ridgeway Heath Care in Nashville.

County employees... (cont. from page 1)

County Highway Dept. employees and Sheriff Dept. employees have been subjected to drug tests in the past. The state Dept. of Transportation requires operators of heavy equipment to be tested.

The county commission voted 18-0 in 2014 to adopt the drug-free workplace policy and drug testing. At the time, commissioners said the policy could save the county about \$24,000 a year in insurance costs. In 2014, the county paid almost \$710,000 in insurance premiums for liability and workers' compensation insurance. The cost jumped \$60,000 in just one year.

"It will save us some money; that's part of it," said Commissioner Bobby Cotham of Milan, Chairman of the Insurance Committee when he asked commissioners to adopt the drug free policy in 2014. "But that's not the only reason I'm standing here. If

an employee has a problem, maybe that's the only way they can get rid of the problem."

Mayor Tom Witherspoon said the drug free policy would create a safer workplace for employees and save the taxpayers' money.

Greg Pillow said it took time to get all elected officials to agree to the policy. "We wanted to make sure we had buy in from every elected official," he said. "Back in the spring, we got all elected officials to sign off, and got the stamp of approval from the county. We've done this with the cooperative effort of all department heads."

In addition to drug testing, the drug free workplace program includes educational sessions for employees about the detriments of drug use. Employees were watching instructional videos on the effects of drug use, said Mr. Pillow.

Prevention Coalition... (cont. from page 1)


p.m. The guest speaker for the event will be Thomas Farmer, the Director of the Tennessee Dangerous Drugs Task Force. Farmer will be speaking on the trends of heroin/opioid use across the state and nation, as well as the misuse, abuse and addiction of prescription drugs.

To help combat the theft and misuse of prescription drugs in the home, the Milan Police Department and the Gibson County Sheriff's Office have donated \$500 from their drug funds to the Milan Prevention Coalition to aid in the purchase of medicine lock boxes.

"We educate in order to raise awareness, increase understanding of key issues and mobilize support with the goal of positive change," said Marty Elliott, Treasurer of the MPC. "Follow your prescriber's instructions and properly store and dispose of your unneeded prescriptions."

Beginning on July 1, the Milan Prevention Coalition received funding from the State of Tennessee to help get the word out about the dangers and consequences of substance use, one of only nine in West Tennessee to receive state assistance.

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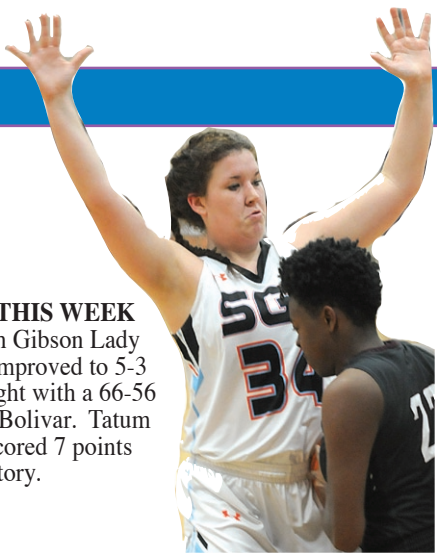
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INSIDE THIS WEEK
The South Gibson Lady Hornets improved to 5-3 Friday night with a 66-56 win over Bolivar. Tatum Russell scored 7 points in the victory.



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Community group seeks funds to renovate Polk Clark gym

By Steve Short

Joyce Vonner hopes people will be in the giving spirit this Christmas season and the months ahead.

Ms. Vonner, Director of the Milan Polk Clark Enrichment Center, is leading an effort to renovate and restore the building's old gym. Leaks in the roof and broken windows have led to extensive damage to the gym, which hasn't been used in about ten years. The floor is buckled and ruptured to the point that the room is an unusable, safety hazard.

"This holiday season is a time of giving, so maybe somebody will want to give to help this cause," said Ms. Vonner about the gym project. "We are calling on all former students. If everybody just donated something, it wouldn't be so hard."

The Graves-Anderson Gymnasium,

built in 1951, was an addition to the Gibson Co. Training School-Polk Clark High School that opened in 1926 and saw several building expansions. The building was placed on the "National Register of Historical Places" in 2012. It is owned by the Alumni Association of the Gibson Co. Training School - Polk Clark School.

Sections of the massive building now function as a community enrichment center, banquet hall and museum. Leaders hope to renovate the gym to use it for an indoor walking trail, rec-

RESTORATION PLANS FOR GYM - Wayne Minton and Cheri Childress (right), members of a community advisory panel, met last week with Joyce Vonner, Director of the Milan Polk Clark Enrichment Center, to look at the facility's gymnasium. Ms. Vonner and leaders of the center are conducting an effort to renovate and restore the gym to serve the community as an indoor walking trail, general recreation, "pee wee" youth sports, nutrition and healthy eating education for children, senior Olympics and other programs. Donations to help restore the Polk Clark gym can be sent to: The Bank of Milan at 2011 E. Van Hook Street; Milan, TN 38358, or to the Milan Polk Clark Enrichment Center, 1041 S. Harris Street, P.O. Box 734, Milan, TN 38358. For more information call 731-723-3577.

(Cont. on pg. 3)



Lions finalize plans for food basket project

The Milan Lions Club is gearing up for their annual Christmas Basket Drive, where nearly 200 food baskets will be distributed to less fortunate families in the community. The basket contains enough food to prepare a complete holiday meal.



Community volunteers are always welcome to help with the goodwill project, and are especially needed to help deliver all the baskets.

Food baskets will be packed this Thursday night, December 15th at Rhino Construction at 6:00 p.m. Volunteers that want to help with the project should report at 5:30 to help build boxes and set up the assembly line.

The baskets will be delivered at 7 a.m. the next morning from Rhino, and volunteers are needed to complete this massive undertaking.

Adult, licensed volunteers that want to help with delivery are encouraged to let a member of the Lions Club know at Thursday's packing party.

The Lions Club has set up donation boxes at 8 locations around town, including all banks, The Mirror-Exchange, Copies Unlimited, Chow Wagon, Total Wellness Chiropractic, City Hall, and Flippin, Collins & Hill Law Office.

The Lions Club is also selling pecans and cashews to help offset costs associated with the project. Pecans can be purchased at any Milan Bank.

Donations for the annual project can also be mailed to: Milan Lions Club, P.O. Box 261, Milan, Tn. 38358.

Amazing Rescue



TOUCHING REUNION - Captain John Horner of the Gibson County Fire Department returns a soaking wet and scared puppy to his owner, Gary Poole, after rescuing the dog from a fire that engulfed Poole's home last Wednesday morning. The dog, uninjured in the blaze, is expected to make a full recovery. Photo by Lori Cathey, Tri-City Reporter. Story on page 2.

Williamson saves the day for Titans

By Victor Parkins

NASHVILLE - Clinging to a 13-10 lead with less than a minute left in the game, Milan's Avery Williamson made the play of the game to seal the Tennessee Titan's win over the Denver Broncos Sunday afternoon.



Williamson

Williamson, the team's leading tackler this season with 90, stripped Broncos tight end A.J. Derby of the ball after a long pass completion and the Titans pounced on the loose ball and sent the home crowd into a frenzy.

Avery said he felt an opportunity to get the ball out, got a good grip on it, and ripped it loose.

"I had one on one coverage and I knew I couldn't get beat over the top because it was a critical part of the game," explained Williamson. "My first reaction after he made the catch was to strip it. I was able to grab the football, and just do what I do at practice all the time. I had a hand on the ball and just ripped it and it popped out. To do something like that to win the game is an awesome feeling. I couldn't believe it happened like that—that I made the play to save the game. It was a great feeling," he said.

When asked if the forced fumble was the biggest play of his career, Williamson answered with a resounding 'yes'.

"Who knows what could have happened had I not made the play. It might have made a difference in whether or not we make the playoffs. Maybe not-who knows. But it was a huge momentum shift for this team and we're thinking it

(Cont. on pg. 2)

Milan Health Care fined over \$2M

By Victor Parkins

After state and federal agents suspended admissions to Milan Health Care last week, they also hit them hard with fines over \$2,000,000.

Tennessee Health Commissioner John Dreyzehner, announced last week that the nursing home facility was being fined a one-time state civil monetary penalty of \$4,000. Dreyzehner said in

a news release that a special monitor has been appointed to review the facility's operations.

Dreyzehner summarized that MHC was ordered not to admit any new residents based on conditions found during a complaint survey conducted Sept. 26 through Nov. 4, 2016. The investigation was completed Dec. 2. During the inspection, surveyors found violations of the following standards: administration, performance improvement, nursing services, social work services and resident rights.

The Commissioner of Health may suspend ad-

missions to a nursing home when conditions are determined to be, or are likely to be, detrimental to the health, safety or welfare of the residents. The order to suspend admissions remains effective until conditions have been and continue to remain corrected. A copy of the order must be posted at the public entrance where it can be plainly seen.

The nursing home has the right to a hearing regarding the suspension of admissions before the Board for Licensing Health Care Facilities or an administrative judge.

Additionally, The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid

(CMS) headquarters in Atlanta, GA, levied a fine of \$7,491 per day effective March 31 to

December 27th, 2016. That 271 day period at \$7,491 per day totals \$\$2,030,061.00

A letter from CMS dated Nov. 18th that was addressed

(Cont. on pg. 2)

Administrator responds to deficiency report

Milan Health Care has enjoyed serving our community for over fifty years. Our caregivers and staff have worked tirelessly, giving of themselves to ensure that our residents are well taken care of and know that they are loved. We are saddened that we will no longer be able to serve the community, but are grateful for those who have honored us by letting us care for them and their loved ones.

In November of this year, the Center for Medicare and Medicare Services (CMS) surveyed our building and cited deficiencies. Our team put together a plan to correct those areas where we showed room for improvement, but that plan was rejected by CMS. CMS required us to transfer all of our residents to other facilities by December 27.

We have worked with other long term care facilities to en-

sure that our residents have safe transitions to their new homes. We are working with our employees to help them secure other employment as well. We appreciate the dedication of our employees and recognize that this has been very stressful for them.

Stated John Simonton, the Administrator of Milan Health Care for the past 8 years, "The comfort, care

(Cont. on pg. 3)



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Firefighters from Bradford, Gibson County rescue dog from blaze

By Logan Watson
Lori Cathey of the Tri-City Reporter contributed to this article

Just before 8 a.m. last Wednesday morning, the men and women of the Bradford and Gibson County fire departments were dispatched to a structure fire at 117 Trenton Highway in Bradford.

According to Jerry Holt, the owner of the property, the back of the home was fully engulfed by the time the Bradford Fire Department, the first department to respond, arrived on the scene. As the fire raged on, an explosion rocked the home. The cause of the explosion has yet to be determined.

Thankfully, the residents were not inside at the time, but the neighbors did inform the firefighters that there was a dog inside the house.

Once the flames were under control, Bradford firemen Zach Culver and Mikie Kiser and Gibson County fireman Captain John Horner, Gage Luter and David Hazard entered the home, where they found the dog, frightened but alive, hiding under a bed. Luter tossed the bed aside and Horner rushed the dog to his owner, Gary



EARLY MORNING FIRE - Firefighters from the Bradford and Gibson County fire departments rush to extinguish a blaze at 117 Trenton Highway in Bradford last Wednesday morning. The home, belonging to the Poole family, was a total loss. Photo by Lori Cathey, Tri-City Reporter.

Poole, instructing him to take the pup to the veterinarian immediately.

Poole returned to the scene of the fire later to thank the firemen who saved his dog, which miraculously suffered no burns or scarring from the fire.

"You'll never know how much

it means to me that you saved my dog," Poole told Horner, tears in his eyes.

Poole's home was a total loss, but the dog, who will be held for the next 24-48 hours to receive breathing treatments for carbon monoxide poisoning, is expected to make a full recovery.

Milan Health Care fined... (cont. from page 1)

to MHC Administrator John Simonton was titled, "Imposition Notice-On-Going Immediate Jeopardy".

The CMS reported that 'Immediate Jeopardy' to residents and staff was identified on November 4th while a survey by state workers took place at the facility.

According to CMS Public Affairs Specialists Bob Moos, Milan Health Care must pay the fine but has 60 days to request a hearing or to waive its right to a hearing and receive a 35 percent reduction in the civil monetary penalty.

If the MHC requests a hearing, the fines are paid into an escrow account until an administrative law judge makes a final decision on the case. If MHC waives its right to a hearing, the funds are sent to the U.S. Treasury and back to the State Medicaid Division.

MHC is required to provide written notification to residents of the facility or their legal representatives about the impending closure and assure that they will be transferred to the most appropriate facility in terms of location, services and quality. Failure to properly help relocate residents or to admit new ones would subject Simonton to a \$100,000 fine, according to the report.

Mr. Moos said that some of the current residents at MHC had exercised their right to move to other facilities owned, operated or managed by Cornerstone.

"The State Survey Agency, State Medicaid Agency, Long-Term Care Ombudsman and Managed Care case workers have been working closely with residents and family members to assure that their rights are protected and that residents are able to move to the certified facility of their choice," Moos said.

After CMS declared that MHC was out of compliance of requirements established by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, they denied any payments from Medicare of Medicaid to residents admitted after November 27th. All payments from CMS will cease at the close of business on December 27th, 2016, according to a detailed, 199 page report that was provided to the Mirror-Exchange.

A letter from CMS dated Nov. 18th that was addressed to MHC Administrator John Simonton was titled, "Imposition Notice-On-Going Immediate Jeopardy".

The CMS reported that 'Immediate Jeopardy' to residents and staff was identified during the compliant survey.

Immediate Jeopardy is a situation in which the provider's noncompliance has caused, or is likely to cause, serious injury, harm, impairment, or death to a resident.

"The survey found that your facility was not in substantial compliance with the participation requirements, and that con-

ditions in your facility constituted 'Immediate Jeopardy' to residents' health and safety and standard quality of care," the document said. "The 'Immediate Jeopardy' was identified to exist on March 31, 2016, and is considered ongoing. Based on the findings of the November 4th survey, your Medicare provider agreement was terminated at 11:59 p.m. on November 27th."

The CMS placed an advertisement in the Mirror-Exchange on November 22nd to notify the public of the change.

The CMS alleges that MHC used unnecessary physical and chemical restraints that placed specific residents at great risk for incontinence, skin breakdown, accidents, increased agitation and social isolation.

A report of the survey stated that specific residents referred to as patients, #61, #62 and #47 were not monitored properly and the use of chemical and physical restraints were not used appropriately. The report states that MHC did not have a policy for such restraints.

On March 30th, '16, patient #62 died at Milan Health Care and no cause of death, information or review was provided to CMS.

MHC is a skilled nursing and long-term care home where up to 66 residents can live. During the survey period, MHC reportedly had about 55 residents and about 45 employees.



PASS RUSH - Avery Williamson and teammate Brian Orakpo applied pressure to Broncos quarterback Trevor Siemian Sunday afternoon during a thrilling 13-10 victory. Williamson saved the game with a forced fumble with less than a minute remaining in the game. Photo by Dale Veazey.

Williamson saves the day... (cont. from page 1)

could be an amazing finish."

Making the feeling even better for Avery was being congratulated after the game by his parents, Henry and Jacenta, and his former coach and his wife, Jeff and Cindy Morris.

"My mom and dad don't miss a home game," gushed Avery. "My dad always tells me to go after the ball like I did and I tell him, 'Dad, I'm trying,'" he joked. "My right hand has been injured and taped up since the second week of the season and this was one of the first games I didn't have it all taped up. That helped!" he said.

Avery said after coach Morris told him how proud he was of his former pupil, they talked about finishing strong with the possibility of a playoff run.

"We were both very excited and we just talked about me finally being a part of something special. My first two years here we struggled to get through the season and my last two years at Kentucky were tough. We've just got to keep winning and maybe get some help if Texas or the Colts lose. Winning is the focus though—just winning."

The Titans improved to 7-6 with the victory, and remained in a first-place tie with the Houston Texans in the AFC South with three games left to play. The Texans beat the Colts on Sunday to keep pace. The Titans now control their own destiny with a trip to Kansas City this Sunday.

"We just beat the Super Bowl champions from last season so we've got lots of momentum going forward," added Williamson. "We feel we're a dominant team but just were not getting credit for it. I feel that this win, is definitely a win that will get us national attention."

Along with his game saving forced fumble, Williamson made three other tackles during the big win.



PROUD PAIR - Milan head football coach Jeff Morris congratulated his former star linebacker, Avery Williamson, on a huge win Sunday afternoon in Nashville.

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