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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2026 \$1 VOL. 156 ISSUE 36



10TH ANNUAL FREE SHOUT-OUT SHAKESPEARE SERIES

LOVE'S LABOR'S LOST

the pastoral comedy
by WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE
directed by STEPHANIE SHINE

SEPTEMBER 25 - OCTOBER 18

Sponsored by Evans Petree PC, National Endowment for the Arts, Tennessee Arts Commission, The Shakespeare Fund of Theater League of Kansas City, ArtsFirst grant from First Horizon Foundation

TENNESSEE SHAKESPEARE COMPANY TO PRESENT 'LOVE'S LABOR'S LOST' IN COLLIERVILLE

COLLIERVILLE, Tenn. – The Tennessee Shakespeare Company will present “Love’s Labor’s Lost” Sept. 26 as part of its 10th annual free Shout-Out Shakespeare Series.

The performance will begin at 7 p.m. on the Depot platform at Town Square, 125 N. Rowlett St.

The Shakespeare comedy follows the king of Navarre and his

friends as they establish an academy and vow to avoid women for three years. Their plans are disrupted when the Princess of France and her companions arrive.

The 90-minute adaptation features actors portraying multiple roles and uses staging techniques inspired by the traveling Shakespeare companies of the period.

Admission is free, and no tickets are required. Attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, blankets and picnic items.

The event will be held outdoors at the Depot Visitors Center.

For more information, residents can contact Victoria McDaniel, Collierville’s cultural arts coordinator.

COLLIERVILLE SCHOOLS EXPANDS ORTHOONE PARTNERSHIP TO STRENGTHEN STUDENT-ATHLETE CARE

COLLIERVILLE, Tenn. – Collierville Schools is expanding its longstanding partnership with OrthoOne Sports Medicine with the appointment of Tripp Turner, ATC, LAT, as the district’s director of sports medicine.

The appointment, effective immediately, adds expanded leadership and oversight of sports medicine services throughout the district while Turner continues in his role as director of sports medicine for OrthoOne.

The announcement was reported by GoDragonsGo.com, the official website of Collierville Schools athletics.

Turner brings more than 30 years of experience in athletic training and sports medicine to the position. A board-certified and Tennessee-licensed athletic trainer, he has spent his career focused on the health, safety and performance of student-athletes throughout the Mid-South.

Turner joined OrthoOne in 2008 as its director of sports medicine. In that role, he has worked with schools, coaches, athletic trainers, physicians and families to provide sports medicine care to athletes at multiple levels.

As part of the expanded partnership, Turner will oversee sports medicine services for athletic pro-



grams across Collierville Schools’ six elementary schools, two middle schools and Collierville High School.

He will work alongside athletic trainers Matt Norton and Tina Cole, as well as coaches, administrators, physicians and student-athletes. The effort will focus on injury prevention, evaluation, treatment, rehabilitation and return-to-play protocols.

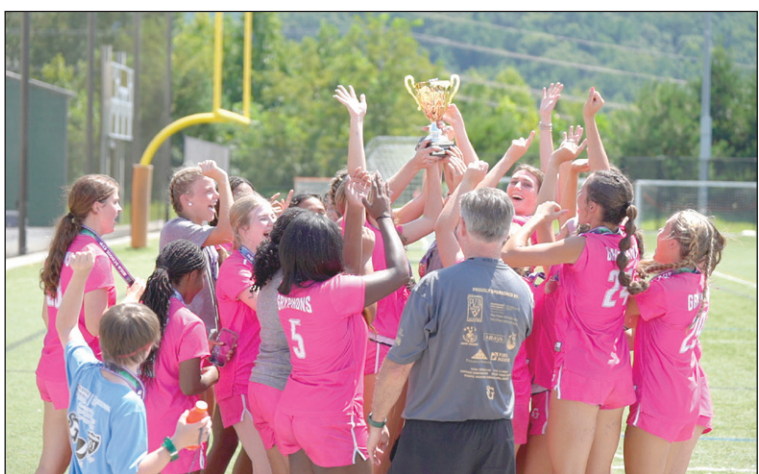
“This expansion with OrthoOne represents the investment in the health and well-being of our student-athletes,” Collierville Schools Director of Athletics Jeff Curtis said, according to GoDragonsGo.com.

“Tripp is one of the most respected sports medicine professionals in our region, and his leadership, expertise, and commitment to athlete safety will further strengthen the exceptional care already being provided to students across our district.”

Turner is a University of Memphis graduate with a degree in exercise science/athletic training. His professional service has included leadership roles with the Tennessee Athletic Trainers’ Society and membership on the TSSAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee, along with involvement in organizations focused on student-athlete health and safety.

“I am excited to expand OrthoOne’s partnership with Collierville Schools and continue supporting its outstanding student-athletes, coaches, and families,” Turner said, according to GoDragonsGo.com. “By working together, we can further enhance the sports medicine resources available throughout the district and ensure every athlete receives exceptional care focused on health, safety, and performance.”

The expanded partnership gives Collierville Schools a centralized sports medicine leadership structure while building on the care already provided to student-athletes across the district.



Photos By Ryan Frazier (playmakerportraits.com)

Collierville area teams logged miles last week. The Collierville Dragon Football team, playing in Oxford, suffered a 34-24 loss to the Chargers. The Dragons return home this Friday to take on Horn Lake in search of their first win for the 2026 season. The Collierville Lady Dragon Soccer squad was in Nashville and returned down I-40 still unbeaten after wins over Page and Summit. Finally, the St. George's Lady Gryphons were in Gatlinburg, the land of the late Dolly Parton. St George's won the tournament with a 9-2 win over Seymour High School on Friday and a 6-1 win over Halls High on Saturday.



COLLIERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR COMPLETES EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT AT SYCAMORE ELEMENTARY

COLLIERVILLE, Tenn. – Collierville High School senior Parthip Dileep completed an Eagle Scout project at Sycamore Elementary School that added benches and picnic tables near the school’s walking track.

The new outdoor seating will

provide space for students, staff and families to gather and use the area surrounding the track.

Dileep dedicated his time and effort to planning and completing the project as part of his work toward the rank of Eagle Scout.

Source: Collierville Schools



FRIENDS OF COLLIERVILLE LIBRARY BOOK SALE SET FOR SEPT. 17-19

STAFF REPORTS

The Friends of the Lucius E. and Elsie C. Burch, Jr. Library will hold its annual book sale Sept. 17-19, offering books and other materials at discounted prices.

A preview sale for Friends members will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. Sept. 17. Members may enter at 3:45 p.m. Non-members can purchase a \$10 shopping pass at the sale or begin a Friends membership at the Friends Again Bookstore.

The public sale will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 18 and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sept. 19. Saturday will feature a box sale, with shoppers able to fill a provided box for \$15.

The Friends of the Library is a nonprofit organization that supports the library through volunteer work, fundraising and sponsorship

BOOK SALE

Friends of the Collierville Burch Library

PREVIEW SALE
Thursday, Sept. 17, 4 to 7 p.m.
Open to current Friends members (3:45 p.m. entry) and to those who purchase a \$10 pass

PUBLIC SALE
Friday, Sept. 18, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 19, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Saturday is \$15 box day (we provide the boxes)

of programs and services.

Annual membership costs \$20. The group meets at 1 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month, except July, in the Halle Meeting Room at the library.

Applications are available at the library's Information Desk and the Friends Again Bookstore.

The Friends Again Bookstore is located in the library foyer and is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. The bookstore is closed on holi-

days and during book sales.

The Friends accept new and gently used books and other library materials, including fiction, romance, nonfiction, young adult and children's books, as well as original DVDs, CDs, textbooks and magazines.

A donation book drop is located in the library foyer. Tax donation forms are available at the bookstore.

More information is available at colliervilletnfriends.org or by calling the bookstore at 901-457-2606.

Source: Town of Collierville

COLLIERVILLE COACH NAMED TENNESSEE UNIFIED TRACK & FIELD COACH OF THE YEAR

COLLIERVILLE, Tenn. – Collierville Schools recently announced that Collierville High School teacher and coach Brittany Clark has been named Tennessee's 2026 Unified Track & Field Coach of the Year by the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA).

Clark was recognized for her work with Collierville High School's Unified Sports program, which brings together students with and without intellectual disabilities to participate in athletics.

Unified Sports is supported by the TSSAA and Special Olympics Tennessee and offers opportunities for students to compete together in bowling, track and field, flag football and game-day cheer.

Clark's recognition highlights her commitment to creating inclusive athletic opportunities for students at Collierville High School.



The Shops at Carriage Crossing has completed an energy-efficient lighting upgrade designed to reduce energy consumption and operating costs at the Collierville shopping center. The project was made possible through a rebate from the Tennessee Valley Authority and Memphis Light, Gas and Water. The upgraded lighting is expected to improve visibility and safety for visitors, employees and businesses at the center while reducing energy use, Ramzi Hassan of Edwards Realty Company, which oversees the property, said the goal was to make improvements beyond routine maintenance. Mayor Maureen Fraser and the Town of Collierville were recognized for supporting the project. Dancers from LYE Academy also performed as part of a celebration of the upgrade.

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Scott Walkup, Administrator
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CONTENTS
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Collierville Herald Independent welcomes letters to the editor on topics of interest to residents of Collierville. This newspaper reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity. Letters of no more than 300 words are suggested. Only one letter per writer per month will be considered for publication. All letters must include the writer's name, address and phone number for verification purposes. Only the name and city of residence will be published. Anonymous letters will not be published. Letters may be mailed, with contact information included to: Collierville Herald Independent, 2850 Stage Village Cove, Suite #5, Bartlett, TN 38134; or dropped by the office.

Anchored in Truth

by Bill White

LESSONS FROM

THE COACHING CHAIR:

More Money Won't

Fix Everything

“If I could just make a little more money, everything would be fine.”

I’ve heard some version of that sentence many times from the coaching chair.

And sometimes it’s true. There are families genuinely struggling because their income simply isn’t enough to cover reasonable necessities. In those situations, increasing income can make an enormous difference.

But I’ve also worked with people earning incomes they once dreamed about who still feel like they’re barely making it.

That’s because more money doesn’t automatically create financial peace.

Sometimes it simply allows us to make more expensive mistakes.

We get the raise and replace the car. The promotion comes, and suddenly the house feels too small. The bonus arrives already committed to a vacation, furniture, or something else we’ve been wanting.

Before long, the additional income has disappeared, and we’re wondering why we don’t feel any better off.

There’s a name for this: lifestyle creep.

Our standard of living quietly rises alongside our income until what once seemed like a luxury begins to feel like a necessity.

The problem isn’t enjoying the fruits of our labor. I believe God gives us good things to enjoy. The problem comes when every increase in income automatically produces an increase in spending.

Proverbs 21:20 says, “The wise store up choice food and olive oil, but fools gulp theirs down.”

In modern terms, we might say: wise people don’t consume everything that comes through their hands.

One question I like to ask people is this: If you received a 10 percent raise tomorrow, what would happen to it?

Would you even know?

Without a plan, there’s a good chance that within a year the money would simply become part of your lifestyle.

But imagine deciding beforehand that part of every raise would go toward eliminating debt, increasing retirement contributions, building savings, or becoming more generous.

Now increased income begins building wealth instead of merely increasing consumption.

This is one reason I’ve become convinced that financial peace has less to do with how much we make than most people think.

I’ve seen people with ordinary incomes build remarkable financial stability because they were intentional. And I’ve seen people with extraordinary incomes remain stressed because everything they earned already had somewhere to go.

Money is a wonderful tool, but it’s a terrible substitute for a plan.

So, yes, pursue that promotion. Build the business. Learn a new skill. Increase your income. There’s nothing wrong with prospering.

Just decide what the additional money is supposed to accomplish before it arrives.

Because one of the lessons I’ve learned from the coaching chair is this:

If we don’t learn to manage what we have today, simply having more tomorrow may not change nearly as much as we think.

About the Author:



Bill White is a financial coach and founder of Peacebridge Financial Coaching. He helps individuals and families gain clarity, create a practical plan, and move forward with confidence. He can be reached at 901-205-9674, bill@peacebridgecoaching.com, or peacebridgecoaching.com.



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REGISTRATION OPENS FOR 11TH ANNUAL RACE FOR THE ‘VILLE

Staff Reports

Registration is open for the 11th annual Race for the ‘Ville Glow Run, scheduled for Nov. 7 at West Collierville Middle School.

The event will feature a timed 5K Glow Run and a one-mile Family Fun Run. Participants who do not want to run can register as Spirit Runners.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Collierville Schools Family Resource Center, which provides support to local students and families.

Early-bird registration pricing is available through Oct. 9.

COLLIERVILLE UNEMPLOYMENT FALLS TO 3.1% IN JULY

The rate dropped three-tenths of a point for the month and held well below the countywide figure.

Staff Reports

Collierville’s unemployment rate fell to 3.1% in July, down three-tenths of a point from 3.4% in June, according to figures released Aug. 27 by the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

The rate was down three-tenths of a point from the 3.4% recorded in July 2025.

An estimated 779 Collierville residents were counted as unemployed out of a labor force of 25,188, leaving 24,409 people working.

The dip came amid a nearly statewide decline. Unemployment rates fell from June to July in 93 of Tennessee’s 95 counties, the department said, and the state’s seasonally adjusted rate reached a two-year low of 3.4%. City and county rates are not seasonally adjusted.

Collierville’s rate stayed well under Shelby County’s 5.0% and the city of Memphis’ 5.6%. Among Shelby County’s largest suburbs, only Germantown was lower in July, at 2.8%, while Bartlett stood at 3.8%.

The broader Memphis metropolitan area, which spans parts of Mississippi and Arkansas, registered 4.7% in July, down from 4.8% in June.

The Labor Department will release statewide unemployment data for August on Sept. 17.

X

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6225 Quintar Street, Arlington, TN (901) 467-2800

The Dynamix Power 10 Rankings presented by West 10 Media returns for the 2026 season. The teams from the coverage area for The Bartlett Express, The Collierville Herald-Independent, The Leader, The Millington Star, and The Germantown News & Shelby Sun Times, including Arlington, Bartlett, Cordova, Collierville, Germantown, Millington and Tipton County were eligible. With several residents from those cities attending Christian Brothers High School and Memphis University School, those two teams were also eligible for the rankings. Check out each paper throughout the season to stay updated on the rankings.

Here are the rankings going into Week 3

POWER 10 2026

WEEK 3

1. Munford (2-0) vs. Woodford, Ky. (Sept. 11)

W 61-0 vs. Millington

2. Briarcrest (2-0) @ Ensworth

W 55-6 vs. Fairley

3. St. George's (2-0) @ FACS

W 23-0 @ Harding Academy

4. Arlington (2-0) vs. Hamilton

W 66-0 vs. Memphis East

5. CBHS (2-0) @ Lausanne

W 19-7 @ White Station

6. Cordova (2-0) vs. Center Hill, Miss.

W 32-6 vs. Oakhaven

7. Brighton (2-0) vs. Jackson Central-Merry

W 32-38 vs. Dyersburg

8. St. Benedict (2-0) vs. Fayette Academy

W 38-7 @ Lake County

9. Covington (1-1) vs. Douglass

L 36-14 vs. Haywood

10. Houston (1-1) vs. Southwind

L 43-28 @ Whitehaven

WEEK 2

1. Munford

2. Briarcrest

3. St. George's

4. Covington

5. ouston

6. Bartlett

7. Arlington

8. CBHS

9. Cordova

10. Collierville

WEST 10 MEDIA

The Millington Star

GERMANTOWN NEWS & SHELBY SUN TIMES

The Leader

Bartlett Express

Collierville Herald Independent

Collierville students invited to enter Fire Prevention Week poster contest

BY STAFF WRITER

Collierville students are being invited to put their creativity and fire-safety knowledge to work in the annual Fire Prevention Week Poster Contest hosted by Collierville Fire & Rescue.

This year's contest focuses on the National Fire Protection Association's 2026 Fire Prevention Week theme, "Charge into Fire Safety™: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home."

The contest encourages students to create artwork that promotes safe practices involving lithium-ion batteries, including how to buy, charge and recycle them safely.

The contest is open to K-12 students in Collierville, including those attending public and private schools as well as homeschool students. Posters must be handmade, no larger than 11 by 17 inches and focus on the 2026 Fire Prevention Week theme and related safety messages.

Winners will be selected by grade level, with an Accessible Arts Division also available.

Entries must be submitted by 4 p.m. Monday, Sept. 21.

Collierville Fire & Rescue encourages students to get creative while helping spread an important fire-safety message

Safe Charging Is a **SUPERPOWER™**

Collierville Fire Prevention Week

POSTER CONTEST!



SHOW YOUR CREATIVITY. BE A SAFETY **SUPERHERO!**

WHO: Open to all Collierville students – public, private, and homeschool. Grades K–12.

WHAT: Create an original handmade poster (not to exceed 11x17") showing this year's Fire Prevention Week theme from the NFPA: **Safe Charging Is a SUPERPOWER™**

WHEN: Entries due **Monday, September 21st, 2026 @ 4:00 PM**

WHERE: Turn in your poster at either:
• 1251 Peterson Lake Rd.
• Your school's front office

IMPORTANT: The Parental Release Form must be completely filled out and attached to the back of the poster to be considered.

ACCESSIBLE ARTS DIVISION: Students who receive services through an IEP are encouraged to enter. Entries will be judged in a separate Accessible Arts division.

AWARDS:
• Awards given for EACH GRADE (K–12)
• Awards for students in the Accessible Arts division

AWARDS CEREMONY:
Wednesday, October 7th, 2026 at 5:00 PM
at the MORTON MUSEUM

throughout the community. More information about Fire Prevention Week and lithium-ion battery safety is available at fpw.org.
Source: Collierville Fire & Rescue.



IS FALL IDEAL FOR PLANTING?

When most gardeners think about planting, spring usually comes to mind. But let me assure you that fall is one of the best times to plant. Soon, nurseries and garden centers will have their fall plants on display, and the Memphis Botanic Garden has already announced its fall plant sale.

From late September through November, the Mid-South typically experiences cooler temperatures and warm soil. These conditions create an ideal environment for root development. As the days become shorter and nights cooler, plants can focus more energy on establishing root systems rather than producing new top growth. Roots will continue to develop through the fall and into winter, giving plants a head start on the next growing season.

Planting perennials, shrubs, and trees in the fall can also mean less stress from a lack of water. Cooler temperatures and increased soil moisture mean newly planted plants require less frequent watering than during spring and summer. However, a consistent supply of moisture is still important. Proper watering helps establish healthy roots and prepares plants

to better withstand the heat and potential drought of the following summer.

As you prepare your planting area, don't forget to start with a soil test. A soil test can help determine what nutrients are available and whether amendments are needed. Soil test kits are available at the Shelby County Extension Office.

Once your plants are in the ground, water them and consider applying organic mulch to help conserve moisture and moderate soil temperatures.

Visit your local nursery, garden center, or botanic garden and take advantage of cooler temperatures, autumn rains and consider fall planting in your garden this year. Your plants will appreciate it, and you may enjoy gardening even more as temperatures fall.

The Shelby County Extension Office has publications to help with your fall garden. Give me a call at 901-752-1207. I am happy to help!

© 2026. Written by Dr. Chris Cooper, Horticulture Specialist, UT Shelby County Extension. Host of The Family Plot: Gardening in the Mid-South (WKNO/Channel 10).

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