

Collierville natives served summer internships with Youth Villages

Burleson, Russell worked with young people in Memphis

Joshua Burleson and Katarina Russell, both Collierville, Tennessee, natives, served as summer interns with Youth Villages, a national nonprofit that helps young people with behavioral and emotional challenges and their families live successfully.

Burleson, who is studying psychology at the University of Memphis, worked at the Youth Villages group homes. Russell, who is studying psychology and dance at Texas Christian University, worked at Bill's Place on the Bartlett residential campus.

This summer, 63 college students from across the nation traded in their classrooms and books for valuable work experience with Youth Villages' summer internships. This year's internship class represented 37 different colleges and universities from across 23 states.

The Youth Villages summer internship program is highly competitive, receiving an average of more than 600 applications over



the past eight years. For its 2026 summer internship program, Youth Villages received more than 650 applications. Youth Villages, now in its 40th year, began its summer internship program in 2000.

"This year's group fully embraced the opportunity to gain experience working with the youth in our care," said Luke Self, managing director of recruiting

at Youth Villages. "It was especially rewarding to see several interns return for a second summer with us, which speaks volumes about our program's value."

Summer interns served at the organization's Memphis residential campuses and Nashville-area group homes. Hailing from degree programs in social work, psychology, education

and more, interns gained hands-on experience working with youth ages 6 to 17 by supporting their positive development and helping them implement individual goals; planning and leading recreational activities; and serving as positive role models by demonstrating a healthy, wholesome approach to life.

"We want this opportunity to be the first step for

these interns on a career path that hopefully either begins with Youth Villages or brings them back to us down the road," Self said. "Our internship program has been a great talent pipeline for many former interns moving into full-time positions with Youth Villages nationwide after they graduate."

To learn more about the Youth Villages internship program, visit youthvillages.org/internships.

About Youth Villages

Youth Villages is a national leader in mental and behavioral health committed to finding the most effective solutions to help children, families and young adults overcome obstacles and live successfully. Working through direct services, partnerships, with innovative public agencies and advocacy, we collaborate to bring positive change to child welfare, children's mental health and justice systems. Last fiscal year, our 5,000 employees served more than 50,000 children and young adults in more than 120 locations in 30 states and the District of Columbia. Youth Villages has been recognized by the Harvard Business School and U.S. News & World Report and was identified by The White House as one of the nation's most promising results-oriented nonprofit organizations. For more information, go to youthvillages.org.

COLLIERVILLE TOWN BEAUTIFUL



HOME OF THE MONTH: Congratulations to the Wiedman family, our September Beautiful Home of the Month winners! Your yard is lovely, and we appreciate all the care you put into making our community a beautiful place to live.

Collierville Town Beautiful



BUSINESS OF THE MONTH: Congratulations to Mugshots Grill & Bar for being named our Beautiful Business of the Month! Thank you for your hard work and dedication to helping keep our community beautiful!

Collierville Town Beautiful

RIBBON CUTTING



Blue Suede Stitches, a brand new needlepoint shop located at 190 Washington St in Collierville, TN, recently opened its doors and brought our entire community together for their grand opening! Find all the canvases and threads you need for your next project, right here in our neighborhood!

Collierville Chamber of Commerce

UPCOMING EVENTS

Collierville Library Celebrates September Library Card Sign-Up Month

COLLIERVILLE, Tenn. — The Collierville Burch Library is celebrating Library Card Sign-Up Month throughout September with events, activities and a prize drawing for new cardholders.

This year’s national theme is “A Library Card Hits All the Right Notes.” Library officials are encouraging residents to sign up for or renew a library card and explore the library’s books, movies, programs and other resources.

Anyone who signs up for a library card during September will be entered into a prize drawing. Winners will be announced Oct. 1.

The library also will offer a scavenger hunt throughout the month and a photo booth. Registration is required for all events except the scavenger hunt.

Scheduled events include:

- Piano Lessons for Beginners with Music Box, Sept. 12 at 10:30, 11 or 11:30 a.m. at the library.
- Bingo Night with Tony’s Trophy Room, Sept. 14 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Tony’s Trophy Room.
- School of Rock Showcase with Nashoba, Sept. 27 from 2 to 4 p.m. at Nashoba.
- Library Scavenger Hunt, available throughout September.

Source: Town of Collierville

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.



EXHIBIT, Continued from A1

give visitors an opportunity to explore the collection, learn more about the histo-

ry of Post 5066 and Auxiliary members, and recognize the veterans who have continued to serve long after leaving the battlefield.

The exhibition is a reminder that for many veterans, service takes on a dif-

ferent form after military life — through friendship, assistance, remembrance and a commitment to making sure fellow veterans do not have to face life’s challenges alone.

Source: Town of Collierville

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 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 Book-

store 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 holidays 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 colliervillemnfriends.org or by calling the bookstore at 901-457-2606.

Source: Town of Collierville

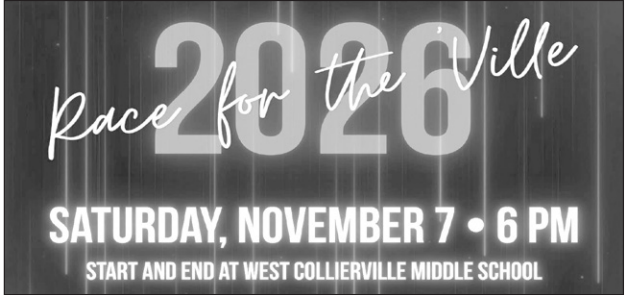
REGISTRATION OPENS FOR 11TH ANNUAL RACE FOR THE ‘VILLE

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.

FIRST ALERT WEATHER

10 DAY FORECAST

GOLD STRIKE

WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
	30% PM STORMS	40% SCATTERED STORMS	20% FEW STORMS	20% STRAY STORM	20% STRAY STORM	20% STRAY STORM	94 92 92
99	97	92	94	96	94	94	
78	76	74	74	74	74		

STORMTRACK 5 DOPPLER

COLLIERVILLE

FOR YOUR DAILY WEATHER FORECAST LOG ON TO wmcactionnews5.com

RON CHILDERS

WMC ACTION NEWS 5 CHIEF METEOROLOGIST

BURCH LIBRARY’S 12-MONTH LOCAL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT INITIATIVE CONTINUES TO SHINE A LIGHT ON LOCAL BUSINESSES

STAFF REPORTS

COLLIERVILLE, Tenn. — The Lucius E. and Elsie C. Burch, Jr. Library launched a 12-month Local Business Spotlight initiative in 2026 to feature local businesses and connect business owners with the community.

The yearlong program provides small businesses, entrepreneurs and established companies with an opportunity to increase visibility, share their stories and engage with library visitors through displays and public programming.

How It Works

Selected businesses receive a dedicated spotlight during their featured month. Each profile includes a display in the library’s showcase area with company background information, product

samples, informational materials and visual media.

Participating business owners also may hold a community event or presentation in the library’s meeting rooms. These sessions may include workshops, question-and-answer panels or product demonstrations for community members.

Application Process

The library accepts applications from interested business owners on a rolling basis. Eligible applicants must operate within the local municipality or surrounding trade area and hold a valid business license.

A library review committee selects participants monthly based on community interest, variety and scheduling availability.

Business owners can complete the online application by visiting the Burch Library Local Business Spotlight Application at <https://colliervillelibrary.org>.

Disclaimer

Participation in the Local Business Spotlight program does not constitute an official endorsement, recommendation or warranty by the Lucius E. and Elsie C. Burch, Jr. Library or the Town of Collierville of any featured business, product or service.

The library provides space for informational and educational purposes to support local economic development and community outreach.

Source: Town of Collierville

Collierville Herald Independent

Collierville's hometown news since 1870

USPS 122300

The Collierville Herald Independent is published by Richardson Media Group, 7731 Hwy. 70, Suite 102, Bartlett TN 38134, weekly on Thursday.

Annual subscription for Shelby Co. residents is \$39.00. Periodicals postage paid at Collierville Post Office.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Richardson Media Group, 7731 Hwy. 70, Suite 102, Bartlett TN 38134; or P.O.Box 529, Covington, TN 38019

© 2026

RICHARDSON MEDIA GROUP

Staff:

Daniel Richardson, Publisher

Email: daniel@richardsonmediagroup.net

Vicki Clark, Advertising Mngn.

Email: vicki@magicvalleypublishing.com

Thomas Sellers, Jr., Writer

Email: thomas@magicvalleypublishing.com

J. Pleasants-DeShazo, Graphics/Production

Email: jennifershazo@magicvalleypublishing.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Collierville Herald Independent welcomes letters to the editor and guest columns (300 words limit). We reserve the right to edit letters for length and clarity. All letters/columns must be signed. Anonymous letters will not be published. Letters may be mailed to: Collierville Herald Independent, 7731 Hwy. 70, Ste. 102, Bartlett, TN 38134; or PO Box 529, Covington, TN 38019.

CHECK MALCO.COM OR THE MALCO APP TO VIEW THE CURRENT SCHEDULE

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

@MALCOTHEATRES / @MALCOTHEATRES1915

Give the Gift of Entertainment

the PERFECT gift for every occasion!

Shop, Click & Ship

www.malco.com

celebrate Birthdays with us!

Book Yours Today!

www.malco.com

I LOVE TUESDAYS

CHECK OUT MALCO'S TUESDAY BARGAIN TICKETS!

Limited Time Offer. Specially Priced Tickets Available Tuesdays At Participating Locations.

MARQUEE REWARDS

EARN. REDEEM. REPEAT.

NOT A MEMBER? ENROLL FOR FREE TODAY!

Some Restrictions Apply. Review Terms & Conditions @ Malco.com

MXT

MALCO THEATRE EXPERIENCE

COLLIERVILLE CINEMA GRILL & MXT

380 MARKET BLVD COLLIERVILLE

POWERHOUSE CINEMA GRILL & MXT

G.E. PATTERSON @ FRONT ST HISTORIC SOUTH MAIN DISTRICT

IMAX PARADISO CINEMA GRILL

POPLAR @ MENDENHALL

Anchored in Truth

by Bill White

LESSONS FROM

THE COACHING CHAIR:

The Cost of Waiting

One of the things I have noticed over the years is that people rarely get into financial trouble because they do not know anything about money.

Most people already know they should save more, spend less, avoid unnecessary debt, and plan for the future. The problem is usually not knowledge. It is delay.

There is always a reason to put off dealing with money. Work is busy. The kids need something. A trip is coming up. Christmas is around the corner. Maybe next month will be better.

Before long, “later” becomes a habit.

I have sat with people who were carrying a great deal of anxiety about their finances, only to discover that much of the anxiety came from not really knowing where they stood. They had avoided looking closely because they were afraid of what they might find.

Then we put the numbers on paper.

Usually, the situation was not magically fixed. There was still debt to pay, spending to reduce, or savings to build. But something changed almost immediately. Once the uncertainty was gone, the problem felt manageable.

There is a lesson in that which reaches beyond money.

James 4:14 says, “You do not know what tomorrow will bring.” That verse is often read as a warning about the uncertainty of life, but I also think it is a reminder not to keep postponing what we already know needs attention.

Financial peace does not begin when every debt is paid and every account is fully funded. It begins when we stop avoiding reality and decide to deal honestly with what is in front of us.

For one person, that may mean finally looking at the credit card balance. For another, it may mean talking openly with a spouse about spending. Someone else may simply need to begin saving, even if the amount seems small.

The important thing is to begin.

There is something powerful about taking one concrete step. It restores a sense of direction. You may still have a long way to go, but at least you are moving.

That is true in finances, and it is true in much of life.

We spend a great deal of time waiting for the perfect moment to make a change.

Usually, there is no perfect moment.

There is only today, and the next right step.

Concert:

On Tuesday, September 1, the Morton Museum was filled with the incredible voices of the RSVP Chorus for their performance of “Let Freedom Sing: America at 250.”

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us, and a special shoutout of gratitude to all the attendees and performers who were so incredibly flexible and understanding as we navigated rescheduling this event. The wait was absolutely worth it!

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.





Joyce McKenzie

CRYE-LEIKE, REALTORS®

Collierville's #1 Top Producing REALTOR® - 20+ Years

901.335.8460 • 901.854.5050

JOYCEMCKENZIE.COM



Jason Overton

Branch Manager & Loan Officer

NMLS #1222945

(901) 853-1400

(901) 853-1023

joverton@downdhomebank.com

279 Market Blvd, Collierville TN 38017

patriot-bank.com



LANDERS



2082 W Poplar Ave • Collierville, TN

901.854.3600

landersfordmemphis.com

Faith

NEED A PLACE TO WORSHIP? CHOOSE ONE OF THESE LOCAL CONGREGATIONS

CHURCH DIRECTORY	CHRISTIAN	METHODIST
ASSEMBLY OF GOD	COLLIERVILLE CHRISTIAN	BETHEL METHODIST
FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD	707 S BYHALIA RD	3730 HWY 194
730 S BYHALIA RD	(901)853-4176	(901)853-4389
(901)853-9952	KIRKS CHRISTIAN	COLLIERVILLE UNITED
BAPTIST	6070 RALEIGH-LAGRANGE DR	METHODIST
CHRIST COMMUNITY BAPTIST	(901)853-0867	454 W POPLAR AVE
850 PETERSON LAKE RD	NEW DIRECTION CHRISTIAN	(901)853-8383
(901)853-0031	114 E US HWY 72	COLLIERVILLE UNITED
COLLIERVILLE FIRST BAPTIST	(901)854-7145	METHODIST
830 NEW BYHALIA RD	OAK LANE CHRISTIAN CHURCH	104 N ROWLETT ST
(901)853-2668	10611 COLLIERVILLE ROAD	(901)853-4945
COLLIERVILLE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST	(901)757-0921	PEACE TREE UNITED
339 E POPLAR	SENIOR PASTOR	METHODIST
(901)848-7945	JEFF WHITLOCK	9315 E SHELBY DR
COVENANT BAPTIST	THE FORMER MEMPHIS	(901)737-3776
3170 S HOUSTON LEVEE RD	KOREAN CHURCH OF CHRIST LOCATION	PIPERTON UNITED
(901)853-0700	PEOPLE'S CHRISTIAN	METHODIST
EMMANUEL BAPTIST	FELLOWSHIP	785 HWY 57 E
945 QUINN RD	628 CHANEY DR	(901)853-2654
(901)854-2411	(901)854-2264	ST. JAMES CHRISTIAN
FOREST HILL BAPTIST	CHURCH OF CHRIST	METHODIST EPISCOPAL
3645 FOREST HILL IRENE RD	COLLIERVILLE CHURCH	569 HARRIS ST
(901)754-5418	OF CHRIST	(901)853-2074
GERMANTOWN BAPTIST	575 SHELTON RD	MORMON
9450 POPLAR AVE	(901)853-9827	CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
(901)756-9450	EAST SHELBY CHURCH	OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
KIRK BAPTIST	OF CHRIST	580 COLLIERVILLE
6365 RALEIGH-LAGRANGE RD	4700 MAYFIELD RD W	ARLINGTON RD
(901)813-8419	(901)759-1242	(901)861-0541
KOREAN BAPTIST	POWELL RD CHURCH	PENTECOSTAL
9650 E SHELBY DR	OF CHRIST	COLLIERVILLE FIRST
(901)755-5737	326 W POWELL RD	PENTECOSTAL
LANDMARK BAPTIST CHURCH	(901)854-6816	10545 COLLIERVILLE RD
10540 COLLIERVILLE RD	CHURCH OF GOD	(901)850-2131
(901)231-4141	CORNERSTONE CHURCH	PRESBYTERIAN
MT OLIVE #1 BAPTIST	OF GOD	COLLIERVILLE
92 S COLLIERVILLE-ARLINGTON RD	IN CHRIST	PRESBYTERIAN
(901)853-0354	1350 HWY 196 S	202 W POPLAR AVE
MT OLIVE BAPTIST	(901)853-9117	(901)853-4226
283 KEOUGH DR	FELLOWSHIP CHURCH	ST. PATRICK PRESBYTERIAN
(901)853-0821	OF GOD IN CHRIST	710 W WHITE RD
MT. ZION #1	451 QUINN RD	(901)861-3803
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH	(901)854-0312	WOLF RIVER
300 MT. ZION RD	NEW LIFE CHURCH OF GOD	PRESBYTERIAN
(901) 853-0380	261 S COLLIERVILLE-	261 S COLLIERVILLE-
MT ZION BAPTIST #2	ARLINGTON RD	ARLINGTON RD
45 GOOD SPRINGS LOOP	(901)850-1771	(901)853-5556
(901)853-0534	EPISCOPAL	NON-DENOMINATIONAL
NEW SHELBY MISSIONARY BAPTIST	HOLY APOSTLES EPISCOPAL	ABUNDANT GRACE
1059 BRAY STATION RD	1380 WOLF RIVER BLVD	MINISTRIES
(901)853-9302	(901)937-3830	9239 HOLMES RD
PETERSON LAKE BAPTIST	SAINT ANDREWS	(901)753-8772
832 PETERSON LAKE RD	EPISCOPAL	CENTRAL CHURCH
(901)277-6062	106 WALNUT ST	2005 E WINCHESTER BLVD
PIPERTON BAPTIST	(901)853-0425	(901)888-4673
205 E OLD STATE LINE DR	EVANGELICAL	COLLIERVILLE BIBLE
(901)853-1711	REDEEMER EVANGELICAL	806 WOLF RIVER BLVD
ST LUKE MISSIONARY BAPTIST	3100 S HOUSTON LEVEE RD	(901)854-2500
685 KNOX RD	(901)861-6910	COMMUNITY
(901)853-1959	HOLINESS	1185 E SCHILLING BLVD
ST MARK MISSIONARY BAPTIST	BETHEL TABERNACLE	(901)853-7973
363 SYCAMORE RD	235 PATRICK DR	DWELLING PLACE
(901)853-9271	(901)853-3739	449 US HWY 72
UNITY MISSIONARY BAPTIST	JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES	(901)620-5730
132 E POPLAR AVE	JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES	GRACE CROSSING
(901)854-2618	850 N COLLIERVILLE	10576 COLLIERVILLE RD
WRIGHT CHAPEL	ARLINGTON RD	(901)853-3503
MISSIONARY BAPTIST	(901)861-1927	HIGHPOINT CHURCH
1085 HWY 193	LUTHERAN	COLLIERVILLE
(901)853-7020	EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH	1035 WINCHESTER BLVD
CATHOLIC	202 W. POPLAR AVENUE	(901)850-0012
CHURCH OF THE	FAITH LUTHERAN – LCMS	ORCHARD FELLOWSHIP
INCARNATION	507 NEW BYHALIA RD	3690 S HOUSTON LEVEE RD
360 BRAY STATION RD	(901)853-4673	(901)316-5664
(901)853-7468		TOWN SQUARE VINEYARD
		360 NEW BYHALIA RD

Celebrating More than 35 Years

EST. 1984



MAXIMUS

BUILDING SUPPLY

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS. DELIVERING VALUE.

212 W. HWY 72

Collierville, TN 38017

901.853.2200

www.maximusbuildingsupply.com

Locally Owned & Operated by Richard Cooper with Michael Head and Steve Martin as his business partners

WEST 10 MEDIA

A SUBSIDIARY OF LEGACY MEDIA



The Millington Star

GERMANTOWN NEWS

& SHELBY SUN TIMES

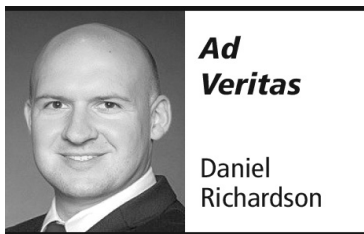


Herald-Independent

The Bartlett Express

For more information, call 901-433-9138

WE REMEMBER



Ad
Veritas

Daniel
Richardson

Pretty much anyone old enough to remember September 11, 2001, can tell you where they were when they first heard that something terrible was happening in New York. I was sitting in a seventh-grade geography class. Looking back now as a parent, I can’t imagine what it must have been like to be a teacher that morning. Teachers were learning the news at essentially the same time as everyone else, but they also had a classroom full of children looking to them for some explanation of what was happening. At our school, it seems like teachers took several different approaches. Some turned on televisions in their classrooms. Others wheeled in those old TVs on carts that every school seemed to have back then. Some listened to radio reports. Our geography teacher took a different approach. He simply told us that something had happened that morning that we would remember for the rest of our lives. And that was about all he would tell us. At the time, I remember being frustrated by that. Looking back, I understand it a little better. The country itself didn’t yet understand what was happening, and he apparently didn’t want to pass along information to a room full of seventh-graders until he knew what was true. When the bell rang and I walked into the hallway, other students began filling in the gaps. Airplanes had hit the World Trade Center. One tower was on fire. Then both towers had been hit. At first, many of us assumed it must have been some terrible accident. An accident would have been

horrifying enough. The truth was much worse. According to the official account assembled by the bipartisan 9/11 Commission, American Airlines Flight 11 struck the North Tower at 8:46 that morning. United Airlines Flight 175 struck the South Tower at 9:03. American Airlines Flight 77 hit the Pentagon at 9:37. The South Tower collapsed at 9:59, and United Airlines Flight 93 crashed near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, at 10:03 after passengers and crew fought back against the hijackers. The North Tower fell at 10:28. By the end of the morning, America had changed. Nineteen al-Qaeda terrorists had hijacked four commercial airliners and turned them into weapons. In all, 2,977 innocent people were killed in New York, at the Pentagon and aboard Flight 93. Among them were hundreds of firefighters, police officers and other first responders who ran toward danger while thousands of others were trying desperately to escape it. Those numbers are important, but numbers can become strangely impersonal with time. There were 2,977 individual people. They had spouses expecting them home that evening. Children waiting to see Mom or Dad. Parents, brothers, sisters and friends. Some had gone to work that morning. Some had boarded an airplane for an ordinary business trip or vacation. Firefighters and police officers responded to what they thought was an emergency and found themselves in the middle of an attack on the country. Twenty-five years later, those are the people we should remember first. But remembering also means trying to understand what happened, and that leads to another lesson from September 11 that I think remains important today: the public needs access to information. There are still questions surrounding 9/11, and there probably always will be. Some are legitimate questions about intelligence

failures, government preparedness and what various agencies knew before the attacks. Others have developed into alternative theories that range from plausible questions worth examining to claims that have been investigated extensively and for which evidence has not been found. For example, people often ask about World Trade Center Building 7 because no airplane struck it. That is true. The official investigation by the National Institute of Standards and Technology concluded that fires burning uncontrolled for hours led to a progressive structural collapse. NIST also specifically examined whether an explosion caused the building to fall and reported that it found no evidence of such a blast. Likewise, theories have circulated for years that a missile rather than an airplane struck the Pentagon. The official record identifies American Airlines Flight 77, and the investigation included aircraft debris, eyewitness accounts and other physical evidence from the site. That doesn’t mean people should be discouraged from asking questions. Quite the opposite. Important events deserve scrutiny. And there are genuine reasons to ask difficult questions about what happened before September 11. The 9/11 Commission itself reported that during the spring and summer of 2001, American intelligence agencies received a stream of warnings that al-Qaeda was preparing something major. CIA Director George Tenet famously described the system as “blinking red.” An Aug. 6 presidential intelligence briefing was titled “Bin Ladin Determined to Strike in US.” The Commission ultimately found serious failures in imagination, coordination and information-sharing. Pieces of information existed in different places, but they were not assembled in time to prevent the attack. Knowing that makes access to the historical record even more important.

There are legitimate reasons for government secrecy. Active military operations cannot be broadcast to an enemy. Intelligence sources sometimes have to be protected. The identities of minor crime victims deserve protection. Certain investigative records cannot reasonably be released while an investigation is underway. But secrecy should not become a reflex. Eventually, the people deserve to know what their government knew, what decisions were made and why they were made. Government officials work on behalf of the public. Public records belong, in a very real sense, to the public. We deal with this same principle on a much smaller scale as local journalists. Tennessee’s Public Records Act begins with the principle that government records are open to citizens unless the law specifically provides otherwise. At the same time, the list of exceptions has grown considerably through the years, often for understandable reasons. Every exception may have a good argument behind it. But collectively, we should always be cautious when the amount of information hidden from the public grows. Lack of information creates a vacuum, and vacuums are quickly filled by rumor, speculation and distrust. That is true when the subject is one of the greatest national tragedies in American history, and it is true when the subject is a controversy at the local courthouse or school. Journalists have an important role in obtaining and explaining that information, but freedom of information isn’t really a privilege for journalists. It belongs to everyone. The press simply uses that right on behalf of the public every day. Still, I don’t want questions about government transparency—or debates over what happened behind the scenes—to become the central story of September 11. The central story is the people. It is the office worker who never



WE WILL NEVER FORGET

made it home. The firefighter climbing the stairs while everyone else was coming down. The passengers aboard Flight 93 who learned what had happened in New York and decided they would not sit quietly while their airplane was used to kill more people. It is the families whose lives changed forever that morning. And it is a generation of Americans who can still close their eyes and remember exactly where they were when they first heard the news. A quarter-century has passed now. An entire generation has grown to adulthood with no personal memory of September 11 at all. That makes our responsibility to remember even greater. Tell your children where you were. Tell them what happened. Tell them about the people who died, the first responders who ran toward the buildings and the passengers who fought back. Encourage them to learn the history and to ask questions. Because “never forget” means more than remembering a date on the calendar. It means preserving the truth of what happened and the memory of the people whose lives were taken that day. Twenty-five years later, we remember.

FINANCIAL FOCUS: Simple budgeting tips that fit real life

If you’ve just started managing your own finances, recommitted to doing it well or noticed your spending isn’t making you as happy as you’d hoped, a budget might be exactly what you need. When you know where your money is going, you’re likely to feel more in control and more confident your finances reflect what actually matters to you. A simple budgeting framework to start: The 50/30/20 rule One of the easiest ways to structure a budget is the 50/30/20 rule. The concept is refreshingly straightforward: Put 50% of your after-tax income toward necessities (housing, groceries, utilities, transportation), 30% toward wants (dining out, entertainment, streaming subscriptions) and 20% toward savings or paying down debt. The 50/30/20 rule is a great foundation, but you may need to adjust it a little. If you live in a high-cost city, housing alone might require more than half your paycheck. Or you may have high income and can save more than 20%. Think of the 50/30/20 rule as a starting point you can adjust as your life evolves. Not sure where your money goes? That’s completely normal. If

you honestly don’t know what you spend each month, try a low-pressure approach first. Spend a few months simply observing. Check your accounts without judgment, noting money coming in and going out. Think of it as a financial check-in rather than a report card. You can’t change the past, but you can absolutely adjust for the future. From there, small steps go a long way. Even spending 15 minutes a week on your budget can make the whole process feel far less daunting. Make technology your easy button Some budgeting apps do the routine work for you, syncing with your accounts and tracking spending automatically. Others are more hands-on, encouraging you to map out your spending plan in advance. There’s likely one out there for every style of budgeting. The goal is to find a system you’ll actually use and stick with. When the numbers feel discouraging Sometimes looking at spending brings up more stress than relief. If that happens, start by shifting your perspective. Focus on the expenses that brought you real value — a

modest gift that meant the world to a friend or how your rent provides a comfortable, stable life. Then look for changes that align your spending with your values. Substituting expenses, reducing expenses or creating more income could all be used to help you keep your spending below your income. Build a buffer If you can, consider building a small buffer into your budget for unexpected expenses such as birthdays, minor repairs or spontaneous plans. Adding perhaps 3% of your income or a set dollar amount, like \$200, helps keep those costs from throwing your whole plan off course. The bottom line With a few simple steps, budgeting becomes easier to stick with and more meaningful over time. At its core, it’s a way to align your money with what matters while enjoying today and planning for tomorrow. This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor - Tom Shelley. Visit his office at 7730 Wolf River Blvd. #107, Germantown or call (901)751-1212. Edward Jones, Member SIPC



COLLIERVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT’S CLASSIC CAR SHOW RETURNS SEPT. 26

STAFF REPORTS

Car enthusiasts and families will have another opportunity to gather for a good cause when the Collierville Police Department’s annual Classic Car Show returns Sept. 26, 2026. Sponsored by Landers Ford, the event will be held at Central Church in Collierville from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Proceeds benefit the Collierville Education Foundation, continuing a partnership that has supported local schools for more than a decade. Since 2009, the Collierville Police Department has donated proceeds from the car show to support Collierville schools. The event has generated an average of \$23,000 each year for educational programs and initiatives. The show will feature a wide range of vehicles, including classic cars, trucks, tractors, military vehicles, fire trucks and motorcycles.

Owners interested in entering a vehicle can register the morning of the event from 7:30 a.m. to noon. The \$25 entry fee includes automatic entry into a cash prize drawing. Special awards will also be presented by Landers Ford, the Collierville Education Foundation, Central Church and Collierville Mayor Maureen Fraser. Beyond the rows of vehicles and awards, the event supports the Collierville Education Foundation’s efforts to strengthen education in local schools. CEF provides grants directly to Collierville teachers to expand educational opportunities for students and has awarded more than \$1.2 million in grants to date. For more information or to register a vehicle, visit the Collierville Car Show website at: <http://colliervillecarshow.com/> or contact the Collierville Police Department Public Information Office at (901) 457-2560. Source: Collierville Police Department

WE’VE MOVED! OUR NEW LOCATION IS:
7731 HWY 70, SUITE 102, BARTLETT TN 38134

HAVE LOCAL NEWS TO SHARE? EMAIL IT TO:
JENNIFERDESHAZO@MAGICVALLEYPUBLISHING.COM

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

CALL 901-476-7116 TO INCLUDE YOUR BUSINESS

1st

First National Bank and Trust

a Division of First National Bank of Eastern Arkansas

Bill Samisch

Senior Vice President

NMLS #1159244

511 Market Blvd, Ste. 101

Collierville, TN 38017

www.fnbtmemphis.com

Phone (901) 460-8678

Direct (901) 460-8679

Cell (901) 606-3951

bsamisch@fnbea.com

Dunigan Fence & Painting

• Private Wood Fences

• Arbors & Decks

• Fence Repair

• Pressure Washing

• Staining

• Interior & Exterior Painting

FREE ESTIMATES!

Call:

(901) 491-6132

Ronnie Dunigan

rdunigan2@comcast.net

BBB

A+

GREAT NEWS!

IN THE PAST 24 MONTHS, WE HAVE HELPED 30 FAMILIES OBTAIN MEDICAID BENEFITS FOR THEIR LOVED ONES WHO REQUIRE NURSING HOME CARE.

DON'T WAIT UNTIL A CRISIS OCCURS. LET US HELP YOU PLAN TO ESTABLISH MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY.

Call Cox Law Office today for a consultation.

COX LAW OFFICE

901.853.3500

149 S. Rowlett,

Collierville, 38017

coxelderlaw.com

Past results do not guarantee future outcomes. Every Medicaid application is dependent upon the client's unique facts, financial circumstances, eligibility, and applicable law.

Friday night the arm and legs of Houston Mustang junior quarterback Cannon Day nearly helped Houston pull off the upset of the Southwind Jaguars. Despite Day tossing a TD and running in a score, Southwind escaped Houston with a 28-27 win to remain unbeaten.

Photos By James Coffman

X

DYNAMIX

PHYSICAL THERAPY

Now serving communities throughout West Tennessee with elite manual therapy and sports medicine.

Four area locations including Arlington, Covington, Millington & Somerville:

8586 Highway 51 North, Millington, TN (901) 430-8100

973 Highway 51 North, Suite 12, Covington, TN (901) 617-0100

17760 Highway 64 Suite A, Somerville, TN (901)-593-0083

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 4

WEEK 4

1. Munford (2-0) vs. Woodford, Ky.
W 61-0 vs. Millington

2. Briarcrest (3-0) vs. Father Ryan
W 42-17 @ Ensworth

3. St. George's (3-0) vs. Jackson Christian
W 42-0 @ FACS

4. Arlington (3-0) vs. Ridgeway
W 41-0 vs. Hamilton

5. CBHS (3-0) vs. MBA
W 48-21 vs. Lausanne

6. St. Benedict (3-0) vs. Kingsbury
W 37-10 vs. Fayette Academy

7. Covington (2-1) vs. Brighton
W 67-14 vs. Douglass

8. Germantown (2-1) vs. Whitehaven
W 65-0 vs. Sheffield

9. Brighton (2-1) @ Covington
L 28-12 vs. Jackson Central-Merry

10. Cordova (2-1) vs. White Station
L 43-6 vs. Center Hill (Miss.)

WEEK 3

1. Munford

2. Briarcrest

3. St. George's

4. Arlington

5. CBHS

6. Cordova

7. Brighton

8. St. Benedict

9. Covington

10. Houston

POWER 10

2026

WEST 10 MEDIA

The Millington Star

GERMANTOWN NEWS & SHELBY SUN TIMES

The Leader

Bartlett Express

Collierville Herald Independent