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The Bartlett Express



Bartlett, TN

Volume 45

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Thursday, March 11, 2021

From

75¢

Living one year in a pandemic

pamela**MIRABELLA**
Express Editor

COVID-19 was declared a pandemic in March 2020 by the World Health Organization. Life as most Americans know it, came to a halt, and in an instant, employees were sent home and stores and restaurants were closed or restricted. While those workers deemed “essential” continued working, many found themselves with time on their hands and their daily way-of-life altered.

The Bartlett Express asked readers how their lives have changed over the last year. Here are their own words as to what it is like living one year through a pandemic.

Adrienne Cook – “We used to eat out weekly and now we almost never do. If we do we try to eat local to support small businesses. We also go camping a lot more and do more outdoors adventures like kayaking. We even got a new kayak for Christmas from my parents. Luckily we both stayed employed although I work from home a few days a week now. I did lose my side job when the pandemic started but we feel lucky to still both have our main jobs.”

Chris Thomas – “It has prevented me from being able to hug my mother who is in a nursing home. We are a very affectionate family so talking through a window has been very hard.”

Joel Crupie – “I learned that I could probably survive a while on naked and afraid.”

Phyllis Higginbotham – “I

have learned how much we took for granted. Spending time with friends and family. Hugs and kisses. I miss shopping and eating out. Thankful for the health we have maintained.”

Crystal Bramlett – “It kept me away from my mom and grandmother. I lost them both last year (not Covid related deaths). They died two months and three days apart. I’m hurting, still.”

Paul Cook – “Outside of the government forcing people to wear masks, no. I didn’t miss a day of work, nor was I scared enough by propaganda to change any of my daily life.”

Vanessa Danley – “We take things for granted especially being with family and friends. Also, I have learned that life is very short cherish every moment that you have been given.”

Theresa Locastro – “Learned how impatient myself and others are and witnessed some very sick folks as well as several friends that passed away. Togetherness can be good and not so good sometimes. Working from home was quite an adjustment. Very grateful for blessings I took for granted (medical, first responders, grocery store workers, truckers and others that serve the public every single day). Praying more than ever for all.”

Morgan Staggs – “Life hasn’t changed much for us at all.”

Erin Johnson – “Not being able to enjoy family gatherings and outings. We have four kids and my disabled father. We now only do take-out. Don’t just go out for

fun to look around. Worry about gathering with family members during holidays. It’s been a rough transition for our family. Miss the everyday life experiences. Our youngest just turned one in January. She didn’t go to a store until the end of August. She was absolutely flabbergasted there are other people in the world. I am praying that the world can get back to pre-pandemic. You never really think about the little things in life until something like this happens. Can you find food or toilet paper? Gathering around a restaurant dinner table to catch up with family is missed. Schools being in person and allowing parties, parents, and field trips. Someone passing and not being able to be by their side. Feeling comfortable taking the high risk to a basic doctor’s appointment. Being able to treat yourself getting your nails and hair done. No one has patience anymore. Changing your entire family holiday traditions because it’s not worth the risk. Yes, we are overly cautious. I would never be able to forgive myself if we gave COVID to my father. He has beaten all odds so far. I can’t imagine losing him over something so stupid. Praying for everyone who had been affected by COVID.”

Christy Gebo – Lived in Pennsylvania (the third hot spot state) when the pandemic hit, was walking through Times Square the night they shut down Broadway - my husband had to continue to work at a prison in Newark, NJ as the pandemic hit the jail. We moved to back Bartlett in September because I want-

Please see **LIVING**, page 2A



A YEAR WITH COVID-19 – One year after the nation was closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Bartlett area residents are still coming to grips with a new way of life.



EMPTY SHELVES – When asked what it was like living a year through COVID-19, Bartlett Express reader, Nancy Hill said, “I learned that experiencing shortages of food and household necessities is scary and stressful. We always assume our stores are stocked.” Above, stores still have trouble keeping up with customers’ high demands.

Shelby County: A year with COVID-19

pamela**MIRABELLA**
Express Editor

In January 2020, the world was turning as usual, with the exception of China, who had a severe virus outbreak. Known as novel coronavirus, scientists realized it was transmitted human-to-human, but the world

was not yet on alert.

Only a single case was reported in the states. A Washington resident was the first person with a confirmed case of coronavirus, having returned from Wuhan, China on January 15.

By the time February rolled around, the worldwide death toll was 200 and cases exponen-

tially jumped to 9800. Air-travellers en route to the United States from China faced a two-week home-based quarantine. The World Health Organization (WHO) declared a Global Health Emergency. Shortly thereafter, President Donald

Please see **COVID**, page 3A



Sherry Rollins

Local Arlington woman competes in favorite chef competition

Sherry Rollins competing for \$50,000 and Appearance in Bon Appetit

Sherry Rollins of Arlington, has advanced to the third round of the Favorite Chef competition. The winner will receive a two-page spread in Bon Appetit and \$50,000.

Rollins is a nutritionist and gastronomist who hopes to build out the restaurant space that formerly housed Plumpy’s BBQ into a hybrid restaurant/food manufacturing facility.

She currently operates an artisan seasoning company, KQ Bistro, that manufactures and sells small-batch Kimchi, and seasonings like Kimchi Salt, Soy Salt, and Soy Pepper.

Rollins has been passionate about cooking for several years. She said, “I’ve been cooking passionately for about 13 years

Please see **CHEF**, page 3A

Local Veterinarian named President of Tennessee Association

On March 9, Bob Parker, DVM, Shelby Center Hospital for Animals, Bartlett, was named President-Elect of the Tennessee Veterinary Medical Association for 2021-22.

Additionally, The Tennessee Veterinary Medical Association (TVMA) named its 2021-2022 Executive Board.

The Board is comprised of veterinarians from across the

state.

The newly elected officers are:



Bob Parker

- President - Tai Federico, DVM, Riverview Animal Hospital, Chattanooga;
- President-Elect Bob Parker, DVM, Shelby Center Hospital for Animals, Bartlett;
- Vice-President Forrest Reynolds,

Please see **PRESIDENT**, page 3A

Local gallery offers free meals for Veterans

pamela**MIRABELLA**
Express Editor

Partnering with Holy Chow of St. Elisabeth’s Guild, The Mid-South Art Gallery on Shelby St. is providing free meals to Veterans, shut-ins, homebound residents and those in need on the last Saturday of every month.

Members of the gallery will cook free meals and distribute

Please see **MEALS**, page 3A



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LIVING

ed to get away from the virus, as all the New Yorkers were moving into the Poconos, bringing the virus with them and it kept exploding. I'm still very wary of leaving the house much, but things here are much more lax and laid back. We got down here during what was still the first surge and noticed such a difference. That said, I'm happy to be home anyway."

Nena Stoddard – "Having to close our business. My family was able to purchase an RV and do some traveling. I feel bad for some of the families that have endured hardships. It made me realize time is precious, especially with your kids."

Courtney Allen – "Got married, had a baby, didn't get COVID while working as a nurse, and spent more time with family. All in all I can't complain. Oh and got vaccinated."

Donna Coker – "I missed family at Thanksgiving and Christmas. I miss going to church and my church family. Sad for the loss of life sad for loss of jobs and sad that so many children missed school. I'm so glad to be back at work and so glad that children are back in school and just pray for some kind of normalcy."

Teresa Summers-Mayberry – "I learned how to stockpile toilet paper."

Brandon Cooper – "Lost my job at an auto body shop cause they couldn't afford to keep everyone. Recently started at UPS since delivery companies were so far behind from holidays and virus."

Chuck Miller – "I used to be able to breathe in the gym and now I wear a mask in the bank like I'm there to rob them."

Rylie Mabe – "I miss not having to wear masks."

Jaime Osborn – "I am a better cook now."

Melissa Chatham – "I've realized how important it is to be as prepared as possible for any sort of disruption in our regular lives. I miss seeing and hugging my family and friends. I miss all the normal things I did every day without even thinking twice. Oh and I miss my daughter going to school and just being a teenager without worrying. One thing I don't miss, I've been blessed to be able to work from home and I love it! I feel for all those who are not as lucky in that respect and either lost jobs or had to work in the midst of all this. Thank you to all those who have kept the world turning."

Aaron Bos – "I had a good job, worked hard to keep it going during Covid. Wrote the play-book, tried to keep the owner's wishes and the concerns of the staff balanced, was face first in a riot that turned into a viral video, and then got laid-off after a year that was by all metrics, a fantastic success for the business

considering the pandemic. Yeah, the past twelve months have been quite the ride."

Justin Emmons – "Everything has changed in this past year. Being a local business owner of LivLimitless Fitness. We were very much affected by this pandemic. We were shut down for a few months, and then when we did open back up a lot of our folks either are high risk or connected to a high-risk person so they delayed returning. As a small business we were able to receive the PPP loan and some grants, but it still has been a tremendous struggle staying afloat. One quarter of last year we were negative \$6,000 a month in revenue, living off of the Emergency Disaster Relief funds. We have still not recovered but are improving now. We still have people who are COVID conscious and have not returned to the gym. To create a safe environment for our members, we invested over \$12,000 so far, just for COVID precautions. Including, construction costs to rearrange our entire gym floor, created spaces six-feet apart from each other to properly social distance, extra cleaning protocols and supplies above and beyond what we already were doing, UV lightings in our HVAC units, and extra equipment to limit sharing of equipment. We have also changed our entire business model, limiting class size to 17 people per class. We did not have to lay any employees off and we are very grateful for that. On a personal note, due to business income dropping, our personal situation has also been a struggle. We refinanced our house, sold a vehicle, started a very strict budget, have limited kids activities, cancelled vacations etc. Due to fear of spreading COVID, we have also limited our visits with my elderly grandparents, and stopped virtually all travel to visit family. We've stopped having large birthday parties for our children. We actually did a movie night outside in May for my daughter, where everyone had their own box six-feet-away from each other, so she could have some type of visit with her friends for her 10th birthday. Throughout the pandemic my wife was pregnant, and I was not allowed to go to doctor's visits, even when our daughter had to see a specialist for irregular heart rhythms. I had to sit in my truck and Facetime with my wife, while the doctor spoke to us. Our baby daughter has gotten used to seeing most people in masks constantly when we are outside of the house. Our son is a senior in high school and being type 1 diabetic is very high risk. He has done his entire senior year sitting in his room on his computer for virtual school. My other two children, 9 and 10 yrs. old, have spent every day of this school year on their computers. Sitting eight hours in front of a computer for a 9 and 10 year old has been a challenge to say the least. If we make it through a day with only one crying outburst it was a good day. At this point our life sounds like a depressing country song, so I'll put some positive points

out there. People are beginning to come back to gyms, and other businesses so it's good to see that. I personally have made a much more concerted effort to shop and eat at local establishments over larger corporate owned businesses. I get to spend much more time with my children since they are home doing virtual school all day, while it is difficult it is nice to see them throughout the day. With the kids being quarantined and cooped up all summer, they have gone outside way more, and I have seen more children outside playing, riding bikes, having fun, and doing things outside the home, like when we were kids. Our oldest son has done very well with the virtual school and I think it will help him with his independent work he will have to do in college. I have experienced way more gratitude for the small things in life. Quality time with the family, enjoying the outdoors rather than going to movies or restaurants. Much less distraction and more focus on what matters. I'm sure there is more, but this is what I've come up with off the top of my head."

Paula Davidson – "I learned about storing food, what foods to buy that do not have to be cooked, how to stockpile bathroom tissue, how people can be so selfish, but most importantly, I lost a few friends due to this virus!"

Angie Brown – "Not much has changed other than my husband is working from home. We still go to church, vacation, family gatherings and eat out. (I am) not getting the vaccine."

William Bechtel – "Other than wearing a mask, not much has changed."

Velynda Lee – "We are both police officers so we can't work from home, but I wish we could sometimes. I refuse to live in fear of what might happen, in a world where anything *could* happen. Living in fear is no life at all and I refuse to give up my freedom for a false sense of security. We're neither safe nor free if we do that!"

LaShona Taylor – "Having to remember a mask, which I hate, missing church events and social events. Seeing friends and family anytime without worry. My son has missed out on church and school trips and activities that can't be replaced. We used to go to movies a lot, but not in a year! Only positive thing is I feel my family had much needed quality time playing games and being together."

Ed Hill – "Hardly anything has changed."

Debbie Bain – "Can't jam on my guitar with Richard (my teacher) in person. More fear of dying. Can't audit in person. Can't hug lots of people anymore. I sneeze, I get scared. Isolation. Haven't seen a couple wonderful friends. More sadness."

Connie Sprague – "We were able to build our savings account

From 1A



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MEET OFFICER BRITTNI VICK

Each week, *The Bartlett Express* will introduce a member of the Bartlett Police Department in a cut-out keepsake. This offers the community an opportunity to learn about those who protect and serve Bartlett.

up since we were not going and doing. We were blessed to have jobs that didn't slow or close. Helped others when we could."

Amy Nation – "I found working at home has saved me more money than I ever have. My mental health is actually better. However, I don't want the 'new normal' to become permanent where we wear masks, afraid of get-togethers or get use to grocery shelves being empty."

Mike Brooks – "Canceled a few vacations, but everything else has been the same. Well, except for the wearing of masks."

Diane Graves – "I learned how important family and friends are. I haven't been able to enjoy either of them. Life is fragile. Losing people to COVID is terrible. I learned to be present in the moment with my students. Face to face learning is more important than the fear of getting COVID. And most importantly, I am a hugger and miss giving hugs."

Amanda Williams – "I have been able to discover the job of my dreams and build a business around it. I'm now a single mother that works from home helping to educate children that would have otherwise fallen through the cracks of the education system. I now run the only privately owned and operated homeschool tutorial business in Bartlett helping with tutoring, virtual facilitation, and homeschool tutorial courses. It's been so amazing since it's inception in August directly related to the Coronavirus."

Jennifer Thompson – "I have seen my mom weep for friends she has lost to COVID. I have seen the fear in my 10-year-old when I contracted it. He was afraid I was going to die. I was handed my Mother's Day present at the end of a yard stick, so no one got close to me. The Christmas, Thanksgiving and birthday celebrations all drastically changed because of COVID. We have learned to stay at home. To teach our child at the dining room table when needed. We have

learned to adapt and overcome, but most of all we have learned to be patient, kind and brave."

Heather Kohr – "As an essential worker, it got too bad. I quit my job."

Amy Burden – "I graduated from U of M in May of last year, but I never saw my classmates again after leaving for spring break...no ceremonies or awards day. I was offered a job through the US Department of State to work abroad for a year, but the contract was cancelled due to COVID travel restrictions. So, I was supposed to graduate and go to work, but instead, I'm now working one-to-three part time jobs from home and still living in Bartlett."

Karen Proctor – "Life is fragile. Working everyday in the medical field really makes you appreciate your good health (even before the times of COVID) and the time that we have to cherish our friends and families. Never take life for granted."

McKenzie Prince – "We are currently living overseas (husband is active duty military) and our family has yet to meet our one-year-old because of COVID restrictions."

Susan Hemphill-Acosta – "I learned that some people are selfish... hoarding toilet paper, food, cleaning supplies, and masks. I also learned that there are still a lot of good people in the world reaching out to their fellow neighbor and friends in need. My personal experience with COVID has shown me that until people see it first hand the gravity of the situation is grossly underrated. Watching people die, alone while your community continues to complain about wearing a mask and staying indoors takes a huge toll on the mental health of those of us that watch this nightmare unfold. I still want to scream from every rooftop that this is not a drill, but sadly most still want to dismiss it as a government conspiracy. I've said it before and I'll say it again. I don't

care where it came from or who unleashed it, it is very real. Just wear the mask and take precautions because it doesn't discriminate. Check on your front line friends."

Ian McCloud – "In the last year we've watched as our nation has turned into sheep and by throwing logic and reason out the window. Still can't believe how many people are wearing these face coverings. It might be humorous, if it weren't so sad... and the people coming up with these stupid rules have no idea how much they're affecting our children. People being out of work and stuck at home all for a stupid flu virus is just ridiculous. Depression, suicides and alcoholism have skyrocketed and no one seems to care. My life hasn't changed a whole lot, but my kids have. If you don't like my answer that's fine, just censor me, I don't care I'm just done with it all."

Jackie Tarver – "I learned lots of patience."

Torrey Shoaff – "I learned a lot about people's character and how fragile our freedoms and rights can be. Our community is awesome and when small businesses pulled together we were able to accomplish great things."

Profe Heatherling – "We pivoted our business model and provided essential instruction to students in new ways. We learned new skills, gave parents the autonomy to make the best choices for their families, and worked ourselves to the core in learning to navigate this new normal. Moving ahead, I'm more aware than ever that we cannot predict the future, and that education is so highly regulated. Lots of people making decisions who have never been in the profession. I'm proud of our resilience."

Buffy Ward – "I have worked more in the last year more than I ever have. Not a bad year."

Crandall Quinn – "Felt more drawn to make a difference in Bartlett."

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Mailing address:
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Bartlett, TN 38134-0967
Physical address:
2850 Stage Village Cv, Ste #5
Bartlett, TN 38134

STAFF
Pamela Mirabella, *Editor-in-Chief*
Christy Slaman, *Creative Director*
Jennifer Deshazo, *Graphic Designer*
Vicki Clark, *Advertising Manager*
Dennis Richardson, *Pres/CEO*,
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The greatest life-changing story ever told is that Jesus died for you which proves he loved you more than anything in the world. He knows your every

thought and intention, listens to every word, and sees every act and deed. He has never taken His eyes from you, nor has he ever been distracted or too busy to listen to your concerns. More than anything he wants us to stop living for ourselves and begin to live for him so that he can renew our mind and revitalize our life for his glory. Nothing is impossible with Jesus and the most wonderful revelation that can be realized is that he desires to live inside of us and guide us in all our decisions. What dream or imagination could be higher than to know that God has opened the door for us to live with him now and forever? *"And the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not"* Isaiah 58:11.

When we subconsciously adopt negative ideas and attitudes, the enemy uses these as building materials to construct a despairing fortress within our mind to discourage and disengage us from Christ. If we choose to accept this negative direction, sadness and frustration will lead us into even lower levels of depression and misery. If you have experienced these difficult places in the past and the Lord delivered you, you have an understanding of God's grace and his compassion to leave the ninety-nine, and rescue the one. Have you ever become so desperate for God's presence that you have fallen across your bed and wept as your repentance released His floodgates of cleansing within your heart? The Lord is holy and the continual desire to acknowledge our desperate need for humility and brokenness is critical within our personal relationship with him. Developing a spiritual awareness of his presence will remind us that we will never have his peace until we deal with our issues as the



Billy Holland

longer we carry them the heavier they become.

God uses clay to describe the human conscience and explains how important it is for us to be pliable as the potter cannot mold a vessel that is hard, dry, and stubborn. Our Creator's solution is to break the vessel, crush it to powder, add water, and make it soft so that it can be re-shaped and transformed into what he has envisioned us to be. There is much symbolism in the miracle of being born-again, but to make a long story short, the Bible says in II Corinthians 5:17, *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."* Within this process of spiritual transformation is the opportunity to refuse or to embrace honesty and obedience. Meekness is not pity but rather comprehending that a power much higher than our own desires to change us into His image. Yielding our will sounds simple, yet it is the most difficult path we will ever follow.

No matter the challenges you are facing today, God is with you every step of the way. Dale Carnegie is quoted as saying, "Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying when there seemed to be no hope at all." In times of doubt and fear, you can know that God has never forsaken you and never will. As you walk through trials that are a part of this temporary existence, you can trust without a doubt that His loving presence is surrounding you. In fact, He promises that He is watching over us and wants to comfort us with His mercy which endures forever. Deuteronomy 31:8 declares, *"And the Lord, He is the One who goes before you. He will be with you, He will not leave you nor forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed."* If we have allowed Christ to purify our heart, our eyes are opened to see His truth, and this is the power that sets us free from sin and the dark negative influences which try to defeat us. Learning to have confidence in the Lord and embracing the endless commitment of His love is a revelation of His unending covenant to be with us even to the end of the world.

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CHEF

From IA

now. I used to just cook a decent meal, but when my family moved to a food desert I really started to step it up. In recent years I've studied nutrition and began focusing on vegan dishes."

Rollins focuses on nutrient-dense food, waste reduction, and energy conservation. She takes a holistic approach to food manufacturing that considers all of these factors. She is also extremely lifestyle conscious and works to make food accessible for everyone whether keto, vegan or gluten-free. While her flavor profiles stem from her Korean, Tennessean, and Creole roots, she has combined and elevated both the French and Korean techniques passed down to her to create explosions of flavor and time-saving processes.

Rollins has reduced many processes that have taken days to complete for previous genera-

tions and reduces them to hours and in some cases minutes without sacrificing flavor.

When asked what she intends on doing with prize money, Rollins said, "I had intended to open a restaurant prior to the pandemic. Now, I have decided to pivot to small batch, nutrition dense food manufacturing. I would use the 50k to build out the space needed to produce more products for my brand, KQ Bistro. I would also invite everyone who participated in helping me achieve this goal to the grand opening and treat them to a bonanza of culinary delights."

In order to win, Rollins needs everyone's help in the 901 and beyond in order to become the next Favorite Chef. It is free to support Rollins by voting for her daily, from now until April 8, at <https://favchef.com/2021/sherry-rollins>.

PRESIDENT

From IA

DVM, Williamson County Animal Hospital, Franklin;
• Secretary/Treasurer Margaret (Midge) Phillips, DVM, Clovercroft Veterinary Hospital, Franklin;
• Immediate Past President - Matt Povlovich, DVM, Tennessee Equine Hospital, Thompson's Station.
Six members-at-large were also elected to represent East, West and Middle Tennessee. They are: Karina
Collins, DVM, Animal Wellness Vet Hospital, White Pine; Robert Monin, DVM, Mountain Empire Large Animal Hospi-

tal, Johnson City; Lee Butler, DVM, Huntington Animal Clinic, Huntington; Lauren Dabney, DVM, Northside Animal Clinic, Jackson; Beau House, DVM, Nashville Veterinary Specialists, Nashville; and Julie Buford, DVM, Nashville Veterinary Specialists, Nashville.

Since 1909, the Tennessee Veterinary Medical Association has been committed to advancing the science and art of veterinary medicine. More than 1,600 members work to ensure that laws and regulations promote the health and well-being of all animals, and protect public health and human welfare.

THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
73° 63°	75° 56°	63° 54°	72° 54°	69° 50°	72° 49°	63° 43°

More than just the sunshine is making me smile



We have had some beautiful sunshine over the last few days. The warmth of the sun and the light breeze is enough to make anybody smile, but I received some amazing news over the weekend that brought me even more joy. My oldest son, Austin Mirabella, who is in Rhode Island at Officer Candidate School called on Friday to let us know that he passed everything and is set to graduate on April 2. That is Good Friday. Coincidence...I think not!

If you read his story, you know that he struggled many

years to live out his dream in the U.S. Navy. After six years in college and finally graduating with his Bachelors degree last fall, he was finally permitted in after acing the pilot's exam. He flew out for Rhode Island on Dec, 19.

We did not hear from him for almost two months. Then finally, we got a brief phone call (nine minutes to be exact) in February. He was sharing as much as he could about officer training. He explained he couldn't make contact for some time.

Finally, we got the information that his final was over and he was preparing for graduation. His dad and I are elated and thrilled for him. God sure has blessed him coming and going.

Graduation will be closed to us because of the pandemic. It will be broadcasted "live."

Anniversary of tornados, closings



This time in 2020 we were headed home from central Florida. We have long-standing reservations there in the form of a time share we bought more than 20 years ago. That is a whole 'nother story.

Back at our condo one evening my phone dinged with a new text message. A friend back home said a tornado had damaged their property. That was my first word that a tornado hit so it was too early to know how serious damage was until we got back home and drove around.

The deadly tornado ripped through our subdivision, uprooting large trees. It missed

our home by less than 100 yards to the north. We saw beautiful homes totally destroyed and many others with blue plastic protecting damaged areas to their roofs. A local person lost their life.

"Tornado alley" is a scary place to live, especially during severe weather season and we have seen our share of close personal calls.

It was also while we were in Florida that Disneyworld closed for a short spell because of COVID-19. We had heard of a virus across the ocean but never dreamed it would sweep the world and even our small home town. But it did. Disneyworld's closing dramatically lowered the traffic count in our neck of the woods where the main gate to WDW was only a couple of miles south of our place. Restaurants had no long lines and we weren't asked to wear masks. No one knew how serious the COVID-19 would

I am one proud mama. None of this would have been possible without God's loving guidance on Austin's life. We are all walking on sunshine!

On another note, please be a part of your hometown newspaper by being a subscriber. We need you!

One last thing...don't forget to like/follow the newspaper's new Facebook page: *Bartlett Express Newspaper*. Also, check out our website at: bartlett-express.com. Subscribe by calling 901-433-9138 to receive your only hometown newspaper mailed each week directly to your home. It's ONLY \$30 for the entire year. That's a lota hometown news for a small price.

Wishing you the happiest kinds of day! Until next week, folks...I'll see you in the paper.

COVID

From IA

Trump declared a public health emergency.

On March 6, 21 passengers tested positive aboard a cruise ship carrying more than 3500 people off the coast of California. The ship was held at sea. Five days later, coronavirus became the COVID-19 Pandemic.

On March 8, the first confirmed case was announced by Shelby County Mayor Lee Harris. The unidentified patient had recently traveled out-of-state, possibly contaminating others.

By March 12, the county health department confirmed a second case in Shelby County. The patient had traveled with the first infected person. Shelby County Schools cancelled classes for the remainder of the month. Both were classified as City of Memphis cases.

On March 13, Trump declared the United States was under a national emergency, unlocking billions of dollars of federal funding to help fight the disease's spread. On the same day, a travel-ban was issued for non-Americans who visited 26 European countries within 14 days of coming to the states.

The third confirmed case of COVID-19 in Shelby County was announced on March 17. From there, the numbers jumped. Within two weeks, confirmed cases skyrocketed, not only in Shelby County, but

across the nation.

California issued the first Stay-at-Home Order on March 19. The order mandated all residents remain at home, with the exception of essential employees.

Before the end of the month, Shelby County had reached 100 cases. Businesses started closing. Other companies required health screenings before employees or visitors could enter buildings. On March 28, Shelby County reported the first death due to COVID-19.

There were 497 local cases of the virus confirmed by the time April approached. An East Memphis assisted living facility had the first reported mass outbreak, with five residents and one employee testing positive.

Three weeks in and after Shelby County's second confirmed case of coronavirus and more than 600 cases confirmed, Tennessee Governor Bill Lee issued a Stay-at-Home Mandate. Folks encouraged to wear face coverings when out.

Over the next several months, businesses tried to re-open slowly; however, with confirmed cases growing across the county and state, new mandates would require closing the doors.

By the summer, Shelby County cases alone rose to more than 5,000 and deaths were in the triple digits.

MEALS

From IA

them at 11 a.m. on the last Saturday of every month at the United Methodist Church located at 5676 Stage Rd. in Bartlett. To sign-up contact Frederick Morris at 901-409-8705.

Additionally, The Art Gallery

also provides a free catered Art Reception on the first Saturday of each month. An adult must accompany anyone under 17.

The Mid-South Art Gallery also partners with the Out Reach Ministry Food Bank. Morris

said, "If you know a Veteran or someone in need, please sign them up or give them our contact information. We want to help our community in a meaningful way."

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1FA6P8CF8H5228238
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Legacy is a concept often associated with grand gestures, money, and power but the fact is everyone can leave a legacy for the next generation, no matter their role in this life. The phrase *death is the great equalizer* is never more true than in the legacy one can leave at the time of passing.

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◆

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◆

Sour Cream Pound Cake



Country Cookin' With MeMe

Alesia McCracken

This is without a doubt the best sour cream pound cake I've ever tried. It's soft, moist, buttery with a delicious vanilla and sour cream flavor. I love it simply dusted with powdered sugar but it's as equally as delicious topped with a yummy glaze.

So why add sour cream to a cake batter anyway? Sour cream not only adds a delicious tangy flavor but the added moisture, fat, and acidity gives you an incredibly moist, rich, and tender cake that's just irresistible.

- Ingredients**
- 3 cups all-purpose flour (360g)
 - 1 teaspoon kosher salt or ½ tsp fine grained
 - 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
 - 1 cup unsalted butter room temperature (225g)
 - 3 cups granulated sugar
 - 6 eggs large room temperature
 - 1 tbsp vanilla extract (15ml)
 - 1 cup sour cream



Directions

Preheat oven to 325F. Butter and flour a large bundt pan or coat with baking spray. Combine the flour, salt, and baking soda in a large bowl, whisk together and set aside.

Cream the butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Add the vanilla then eggs one at a time while mixing on medium speed, scraping the bowl down twice or so. Add the flour mixture and sour cream in alternating batches, mixing on low until just combined.

Use your spatula to finish the batter off, scraping the bowl down and mixing any errant sour cream or flour in. Transfer the batter to your prepared bundt pan and bake at 325 for about 80 minutes or until a skewer comes out clean from the center.

Cool in in pan 10 minutes before inverting.

Call in the family, say Grace, and Dig In!

Crispy Tofu Broccoli Stir Fry



What's Cooking This Week

Jennifer Fox

The other week I wanted some tofu so badly! So I found a recipe close to the one they make at the restaurant we like to go to in Paris. This one was really good. We would definitely have it again - I could even work on my tofu cooking ability to get more of that bit of crisp.

Even if you don't want to eat tofu, the sauce on this one is sooooo great. I will definitely be using it whenever I want to cook another stir fry - whether it is tofu or chicken or just veggies. I hope you like it too!

- Ingredients (2 servings)**
- For the Crispy Tofu:**
- 400 grams Tofu Extra Firm
 - 1/8 cup Corn Starch
 - 1/2 teaspoon Salt
 - 1/4 teaspoon Pepper ground
 - 1 1/2 tablespoons Vegetable Oil
- For the Sauce:**
- 1/4 cup Low Sodium Light Soy Sauce
 - 2 teaspoons Hoisin Sauce
 - 2 tablespoons Rice Vinegar
 - 1 tablespoon Toasted Sesame Oil
 - 1 teaspoon Sriracha Sauce (original recipe called for chilli flakes)
 - 1 tablespoon Cornflour
 - 1/4 cup Water
- For the Stir Fry:**
- 1 tablespoon Oil



4 Garlic Cloves finely chopped

1 inch Ginger peeled and finely chopped

1 Whole head of Broccoli stems removed and cut into florets (approx 600 grams)

Toasted Sesame Seeds and chopped Green Onions for topping

Directions

Dab the tofu with a kitchen towel or paper towel to get rid of any extra moisture. Cut into 1/2 inch cubes and toss them in a mixture of cornflour, salt and pepper.

Whisk together all the ingredients for the sauce and set aside.

Heat oil in a non stick pan and spread the tofu pieces out so that they are evenly layered on the pan. Cook each side till its a light golden brown and remove from the pan. Don't worry if the tofu pieces stick to each other a bit. You can easily pull them apart once they are cooked and crispy.

Heat oil in the same pan and once its hot, add garlic and ginger. Saute for a minute and add the broccoli florets. Cook them for a minute and pour the sauce into the pan. Stir fry for a minute or two on high heat to let the sauce thicken and then add the tofu. Quickly toss everything together and turn off the flame. Top with sesame seeds and green onions and serve alone, with rice, or noodles.

Instant Pot Chicken Tortilla Soup

- Ingredients**
- 2 teaspoons olive oil
 - 1 cup chopped onion
 - 4 cloves garlic (minced)
 - 4 ounce can mild fire roasted diced green chiles
 - 14.5 ounce can fire roasted diced tomatoes
 - 15 ounces red enchilada sauce
 - 1-2 teaspoons chili powder
 - 1 teaspoon cumin
 - 15 ounce can black beans (rinsed and drained)
 - 4 cups low sodium chicken broth
 - 1 pound boneless skinless chicken breast
 - 15 ounce can corn (drained (or 1 cup frozen corn), optional)
 - salt and pepper (to taste)
- For serving: lime wedges, crumbled tortilla chips, sour cream or plain Greek yogurt, shredded cheese, and/or avocado



Directions

Add olive oil to Instant Pot insert and turn on saute function. Add the onion and cook, stirring, until softened. Turn off Instant Pot. Stir in the minced garlic.

Add the diced green chiles, fire roasted diced tomatoes, enchilada sauce, chili powder, cumin, black beans and chicken broth. Stir well. Nestle the chicken into the mixture.

Place the lid on and set it to the closed position. Turn the steam valve to the sealing position.

Set the Instant Pot to manual/pressure cook, high pressure, for 9 minutes. When the cook

time is done, allow the pressure to release naturally for 10 minutes (this means just leave the Instant Pot alone for 10 minutes). Then, carefully turn the steam valve to the venting position to release the remaining pressure. I usually do this with the handle of a long spoon.

When the float valve drops down, the pressure has been released and it is safe to open your instant pot. Carefully remove the lid. Remove the chicken and shred. (This can be done in a bowl with two forks or even in your stand mixer – see my how to shred chicken tips.)

Return the shredded chicken

back to the pot and stir in the corn. Season to taste with salt and pepper and serve with toppings as desired.

Slow Cooker Instructions:

Place onion, garlic, diced green chiles, fire roasted diced tomatoes, enchilada sauce, chili powder, cumin, black beans and chicken broth in slow cooker. Stir well. Nestle the chicken into the mixture. Cook on low for 6-8 hours or high for 3-4 hours. Remove chicken, shred, and return to the slow cooker. Stir in corn. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Serve with toppings as desired.

Keto Loaded Cauliflower Chicken Casserole

- Ingredients**
- 1/2 cup sour cream
 - 4 oz cream cheese room temperature
 - 1.5 cups cheddar cheese
 - 1/2 cup bacon I use real bacon bits to save time
 - 2 lb bag frozen chicken, can use thighs for added fat
 - 1 head cauliflower
 - 1/4 cup green onions
- Topping**
- 1/8 cup green onions
 - 1/4 cup bacon I use real bacon bits to save time
 - 1/2 cup cheddar cheese



Directions

Brown thawed chicken breasts in a pan. Partially cook.

While chicken is cooking, break up cauliflower to small 1.5 inch pieces.

Mix sour cream, cream cheese, bacon, green onions, cheddar cheese with cauliflower and set aside.

Remove chicken from the pan and chop up into 1 inch pieces.

Mix hot chicken with cauliflower mixture in a baking dish.

Bake at 350 for about 25 minutes or until cauliflower is as soft as you prefer. Poke with a fork to check.

Add toppings, except for green onions, and up temperature to 450 or set to low broil to

brown the top.

Top with green onions before serving.

Nutritional Info

6 servings (These are filling portions)

3,020 calories (500 per serving)

184 grams of fat (30 grams per serving)

28 grams of carbs (4.5 grams per serving)

307 grams of protein (51 grams per serving)



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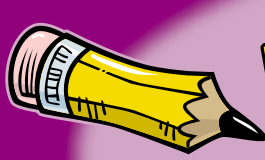
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Save for a Rainy Day!

Why have a rainy-day fund?

Tomas' parents gave him \$2 every week for allowance. But when the pandemic caused his father's company to close for a few months, his dad could no longer give Tomas an allowance.

Tomas had been putting 50¢ of his weekly allowance into a **Rainy-Day Fund jar** for a year. That totaled \$26. So even though he wasn't getting an allowance, Tomas still had some money if he needed it.

When his dad's company opened back up, Tomas started getting his allowance again. But this time, he started adding 75¢ to his rainy day jar every week.



By saving 75¢ each week, how much will be in Tomas' jar after one year?



How much is in Alma's bank?



Alma's grandmother sends her \$25 every year on her birthday. Alma is 11 years old, and her grandmother started sending the money to her on her 5th birthday. Alma saved half of the money each year in her Rainy-Day Fund piggy bank. **How much is in Alma's piggy bank now? Write the amount on the bank's label.**

Martina's Money Mistakes

Martina earned \$5.00 each week watering and weeding her neighbor's garden. Unfortunately, Martina spent almost all of that money every week building up her sticker collection.

Martina's neighbor moved away last month. Martina's bike got a flat tire and she doesn't have the money to get it replaced. She now wishes she had saved money in a Rainy-Day Fund jar like her cousin Tomas.

Can you think of a time when you could have used a Rainy-Day Fund jar of your own?



My Rainy-Day Fund Pledge

NAME: _____

I will put _____ into my rainy-day fund each week. This money will come from:

- ☐ Allowance
☐ A weekly chore
☐ A weekly job
☐ Other _____

Extra! Extra! Expanded Numbers

Look through the newspaper for five 4-digit numbers. Rewrite each one in an expanded form using words instead of digits. For example:

4,1862
Four thousand eight hundred sixty two.

Standards Link: Math: Write out number amounts.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Coin Count

Kevin puts 50¢ into his Rainy-Day Fund each week. Amy puts 75¢ into her Rainy-Day Fund each week. Circle the coins that add up to 50¢ in orange. Circle the coins that add up to 75¢ in blue. Each coin can only be used once.



Double Double Word Search

ALLOWANCE
PANDEMIC
REGULAR
NUMBERS
EXPENSE
ACCOUNT
SAVING
RAINY
MONEY
CHORE
COINS
PIGGY
BASIS
GIVE
PART

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

R R G S R E B M U N
A E C N A W O L L A
C G O A I N E I N E
C U I Y E V S R Y R
O L N Y I I A D G O
U A S G S I A S G H
N R P A N D E M I C
T Y B Y M T R A P O
E S N E P X E N E Y

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.



Kid Scoop Together:

Idioms

"Save for a rainy day" is an idiom. An idiom is a phrase that doesn't literally mean what it says. Work with a parent to write the number of each idiom's definition in the circles.

Idioms

- ☐ Back to the drawing board
☐ Missed the boat
☐ Fit as a fiddle
☐ Costs an arm and a leg
☐ Wild goose chase
☐ Once in a blue moon
☐ By the skin of your teeth
☐ Piece of cake

Definitions

1. In good health
2. Just barely achieving
3. Starting over
4. Something very expensive
5. A task that's easy to do
6. Lost an opportunity
7. A rare occurrence
8. A pointless activity

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Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **EXPENSE**

The noun **expense** means a cost, an amount to be spent.

The added **expense** of snacks at the amusement park was something I forgot to plan on before the trip.

Try to use the word **expense** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Describe Dollars

Look through the newspaper for words that can be used to describe money. How many can you find? Now have a parent try. Try to use as many as you can in one long sentence.

Standards Link: Vocabulary Development: Identify adjectives.



What goes up when the rain comes down?

ANSWER: An umbrella.

Write On!

How I Earn Money

How do you earn money? Do you do chores? What kind of jobs do you do?

COMMUNITY

Tigers dreams dashed as Arlington falls to Collierville

thomas**SELLERS, JR.**
West10 Media

ARLINGTON — The free throws were not falling for the Collierville Dragons nursing a 53-51 overtime lead against the Arlington Tigers.

The Region 8-3A runner up Dragons were moments away from a Sectional upset of the Region 7-3A champions. But for the sixth time, a foul shot bounced off the rim. Instead of the ball finding the hands of an Arlington player, Dragon junior Chris Sims was the recipient of the rebound.

In the game replacing senior Jordan Coleman who was disqualified for fouls, Sims immediately went back up with the rebound to give the Tigers some security with the final seconds running off the Arlington Gymnasium clock.

The backbreaking bucket by Sims crushed the hopes of Tigers and helped the Dragons realize their dream of reaching the 2021 Class 3A State Basketball Tournament next week in Murfreesboro 55-51.

“That was a huge, huge win,” Collierville Head Coach Scott Robinson said. “We played really well the first three quarters. The last quarter we tried to give it away. I told our guys at the beginning of the game, ‘the team that sticks together the most is going to find a way to win.’ Fortunately we found a way to win. We were 0-6 from the foul line at the end of the game. We tried to give it away again in overtime. But fortunately offensive rebounds, Chris Sims stepped up big time and got it done.”

After the first two quarters were deadlocked at 28-28, the Dragons came out flaming hot in the third quarter with a 15-5 run. Jordan Jenkins sparked the Collierville third quarter surge with a three-pointer to make the score 31-28.

The next Dragon basket was a Davon Barnes slam in the dunk. Barnes went on to score three more baskets in the period. Then his tag team partner Jenkins drove to the rim for layup to make the score 43-33 in favor of the Dragons.

The Tigers closed out the third period with the final three points to make the tally 43-36. Arlington chipped away at the deficit until Javar Daniel achieved a three-point play. The power forward grabbed a rebound and released a shot

with a couple of Dragons hanging over him. Daniel’s foul shot gave Arlington a 46-45 lead late in the fourth.

Daniel added two more free throws that gave Arlington a 48-45 advantage. Collierville had an answer when Jenkins tied the game with a three-pointer.

Before fouling out Coleman regained the lead for the Dragons with a foul shot to make the score 49-48. Coleman fouled out later in the game and was replaced by Sims.

“It’s just like the whole game you’re waiting for something like that,” Sims said. “You can’t force something like that.”

After the Tigers’ Madison Peaster tied the game with a free throw, Sims played solid defense helping to send the game to overtime tied at 49-49.

In the extra period, Jenkins and Barnes gave the Dragons a 51-49 with a free throw each.

“You’ve got to know who can do what,” Robinson noted. “And those two guys are our best offensive weapons. We were up 9 I think and then they went on a 14-0 run. Jordan hit a big three to tie it. David played awesome early. Those are our go-to guys early but the other guys are going to get shots off of them. And they just have to knock them down.”

The next Dragon to knock down a shot was Madison Taylor with a jumper with a minute and 26 seconds left in overtime.

That bucket gave Collierville a 53-51 advantage. After a series of fouls by the Tigers trying to regain possession, Collierville missed its sixth free throw in a row.

“Fortunately (Chris) went back up and made because we weren’t making free throw,” Robinson said. “Chris didn’t play to the very end of the fourth but he was ready. He played great defense. He got the ball out of bounds stepped up and played great defense. That’s the thing about our team we have a lot of guys who can do a lot things. We just have to play together to win. We don’t have overwhelming talent but our kids stuck together and played hard.”

Sims made the shot with time ticking off the clock, Arlington got the ball inbounds with less than 10 seconds and couldn’t find a connection. The buzzer sounded and all the Dragon players ran to No. 20 to celebrate.

“You’re time is going to come when it’s going to come,” Sims said. “You’re a part of the team no matter what. No matter what happens, when you get your name called you have to go out there and perform. You can be sitting the whole game and come in and win the game for the team. You’re still a part of the team. Don’t ever forget that.”

The Dragons are one of eight



Arlington's Javar Daniel blocks a shot by the Dragons.

basketball teams left in the state. “We’ve been working hard for a long time with all this COVID stuff,” Robinson concluded.

“Things are changing day to day. Games changing every other day. I’m just so proud of the guys. We’ve got a chance

and that’s all you can ask for. We’re one of 8 team left and we’re there.”

POLICE REPORTS

On 03/01 at 5:44 p.m., an officer reported property damage on Cherry Breeze Drive.

On 03/01 at approximately 4:49 p.m., an officer responded to the 3700 block of Germantown Rd in regards to an auto burglary.

On 03/02 at 5:24 p.m., an officer responded to a theft from motor vehicle on Ferguson Road.

On 03/02 at approximately 12:21 p.m., an officer was dispatched to the 2900 block of Kirby Whitten regarding vandalism to a vehicle.

On 03/02 at approximately 9:51 a.m., an officer to the 5900 block of Stage Road in regard to the theft of a purse from a motor vehicle.

On 03/03 at 3 p.m., officers responded to a property damage complaint on Kate Bond Rd.

On 03/05, an officer responded to the 6600 block of Hwy 70 on theft of vehicle parts.

On 03/05 at approximately 2:30 p.m., an officer responded to a theft of vehicle on Kate Bond.

On 03/05, at 4:57 p.m., an officer responded to a theft from motor vehicle in the 2900 block of Kirby Whitten Road.



A host of Arlington Tigers man the goal during the Collierville matchup.



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STEVEN DINDL – Team Co-Captain and junior Steven Dindl is Bartlett High School's most decorated wrestler in school history. Dindl is a three-time state medalist.



MASON SUTTON – Team Co-captain and senior Mason Sutton (third from left) finished his high school career with the fifth most wins in Bartlett High School history.



MAGGIE GRAHAM – Featured in last week's edition, BHS sophomore Maggie Graham defended her title and brought home the State Championship for the second time.

Bartlett had great showing on wrestling mat this year

pamelaMIRABELLA
Express Editor

According to Head Coach Daniel Longo, Bartlett High School (BHS) had a really good showing in wrestling this year. Two male wrestlers, senior Mason Sutton and junior Steven Dindl, along with female wrestler sophomore Maggie Graham, competed.

Team Co-captain and senior Mason Sutton finished in the top eight in the state for the third time in his career. Longo said, "He fought hard, but he finished just one win shy of medaling and being on the podium. Mason wrapped up his season with a record of 31-6. His overall Bartlett career record is 110-30 with two Region Championships (2018 and 2021). He has the fifth most wins in BHS history."

Team Co-captain Steven Dindl became the most decorated wrestler in Bartlett history. Longo said, "Steven became our first ever three-time state medalist (fifth in 2019; sixth in 2020; and fourth in 2021). Not only did he win the Region Championship, but he also placed fourth in the state and had a season record of 37-3." Dindl's career record is 121-21 and he has the third most wins in school history. Dindl is a junior.

Sophomore Maggie Graham defended her state title and is now a two-time state champion in the girl's division. Graham was last year's state champion at 160lbs. She dropped to the 150lb division this year and took home the championship in that weight class. Longo said the 150lb.

weight class was one of the toughest in the girl's division, with five returning state medalists. "She won her final match in a dominating 15-4 major decision over Elizabeth Champion of Tullahoma. Maggie is a two-time Region Finalist, one-time region champion, and two-time state champion. Her season record was 23-1 and she is 40-4 for her career," Longo said.

Longo is extremely proud of these wrestlers. He said, "It has been an honor and a privilege to coach these athletes. They were able to persevere through a worldwide pandemic to get themselves in peak physical condition and compete in the sport they love. We have faced so many barriers such as schools closing, gyms closing, virtual practices, quarantines, and so much more. We even had an extended period of time when we couldn't have any contact at practices and wrestling, if nothing else, is contact. We weren't even able to get on the wrestling mats until October, so we had to hit the ground running."

The coach said, "In the days leading up to state, a snowstorm shut down schools and practices. So, we used this time to really analyze video footage of ourselves and our opponents, coming up with a game plan for every possible scenario."

Longo finished, "At the end of the day, it was all up to them. They should all be proud of their accomplishments, as it is a direct reflection of the hard work they've put in over the years. We wish our graduating senior the best of luck, and we look forward to Bartlett bringing home multiple state titles next season."

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CROSS JOINS FOOTBALL COACHING STAFF - Alan Cross joined the Bartlett High Football coaching staff recently. Cross, a Millington graduate, started his prep career with the Trojans; was a standout tight-end at Memphis (2011-2015) and played three years for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers (2016-2018). He also served as graduate assistant coach under former Memphis Tigers Coach Mike Norvell. Welcome to Bartlett, Coach Cross. Photos from Facebook.

A Bite Out Of Bartlett



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The Bartlett Express

Teacher Spotlight

Thank you for teaching our *future!*

Name: Holly Fullen
School: Bon Lin Elementary
What do you teach? Social Studies
Grade(s): 6th Grade
Where were you born? I was born in Jackson, TN.
Where were you raised? I was raised in Brownsville, TN, which is Haywood County (Home of Tina Turner)

Where did you graduate high school? Haywood High School in Brownsville, TN (Go Tomcats!)
Where did you attend college? University of Memphis and Trevecca Nazarene (Nashville, TN)

Tell us about your family at home! Do you have children, a spouse and/or furry kids (pets)? Share as many details as you desire (including names and ages): I have a 15 month old daughter named Elly, who is a wonderful baby and is always happy. She is just like my husband and me because she enjoys spending time outdoors. Our dog, Lucy, just turned two and she is a “unique” Chihuahua who tends to have mood swings. Lucy and Elly love playing and aggravating each other, much like siblings. We also have an outdoor “neighborhood” cat, “Kitty,” who adopted our family.

I am married to another Bartlett City Schools Teacher (8th grade at BLMS) named Tim Fullen. He is a wonderful husband and father; he is also an incredible teacher. He is one of the BEST teachers I’ve known (not just saying this because he is my husband) and motivates me to try different and creative teaching strategies.

Our family enjoys anything outdoors (canoeing, sports, camping, fishing, gardening, etc.). We are a very energetic family that must stay busy in order to survive. We also enjoy traveling and trying different cuisines. .

What do you love about teaching? I love getting to know the personalities of the students and enjoy the creativity that each of them brings to class.

What do you like to do in your spare time? Anything outdoors, watching sports, traveling, and spending time with my family.

What made you decide to become a teacher? As a little girl, I always taught to my “imaginary class” for hours and knew that I wanted to be a teacher. Many of my teachers inspired me to



HOLLY FULLEN

become a teacher and my mother also encouraged me to follow my heart in college (I was in Nursing School at the time).

What has been your most memorable moment teaching? I’ve had so many wonderful and hilarious memories teaching. The “light bulb” moments are the best because the students faces truly light up and they are so excited to understand the concept/skill. Seeing the student develop an understanding of the skill is great but the confidence that comes with it, makes it an amazing moment for the teacher and the student.

What is your favorite part of the school day? In a typical year, when my students work together as a group or team; the way the students work together and are genuinely sweet to each other is always heart-warming.

A few of your *favorite things:*

When is your birthday? April 16th

Favorite color: Purple and pink

Favorite sweet treat: Chess Pie or my mom’s Chocolate Pie

Favorite hobby: Canoeing

Favorite holiday: Thanksgiving

Favorite candy: Any

Favorite drink: ½ Sweet tea and ½ unsweet tea

Favorite flower: Plumeria or Sweet Bay Magnolia flower

Favorite restaurant: Huey’s, Buffalo Wild Wings, Bounty on Broad.

Favorite place to shop: Amazon

Anything you need particularly for your classroom? This year I am blessed with the opportunity tNo, I am grateful to work for a principal, school district, and community (parents, students, etc.) that takes care of the teachers and always provides anything needed.

Public land hunting will look different this year

The Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission (TFWC) approved several proposals by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency for changes to public land duck hunting and blind draw procedures at its two-day meeting, which concluded Friday at the Marriott of Cool Springs.

TWRA’s proposal for pub-

lic land duck hunting is a significant effort to increase access for hunters statewide and retain traditional season-long, 60-day blind locations as offered currently. In addition to the 414 season-long blinds, there will be 52 hunt locations designated for quota hunts for three, four, or seven-day periods at a marked location or an Agency-

built blind. There are no changes proposed to privately-owned/permanent registered blinds.

Other agenda items included a presentation on new research efforts beginning on wild turkeys to better evaluate implications of harvest and recent regulations changes. The goal is to gain information for future management decisions.

TENNESSEE FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION



A review was given of the Agency’s marketing tactics and successes from 2020 that assisted in creating a record year for new license buyers and for

getting more people involved in outdoors activities. The review featured some of the tactics that have been successful which includes the CWD campaign, boat ramp geofencing, and targeted social media ads.

The commission recently established a Legacy Award. The inaugural winner is David Wright who has volunteered for years to help veterans get to go on hunts after serving. The award was established to show appreciation for service and dedication to the people and wildlife in Tennessee.

The Information Technology (IT) Division recognized

its professional of the year. Michelle Ray received the IT Professional of the Year honor.

The TFWC elected its new officers for 2021-22. Jim Ripley (Kodak) will serve as chairman after serving as the vice chair. Angie Box (Jackson) is the vice chairman and Tommy Woods (Piney Flatts) is the secretary.

The meeting was also the final scheduled for five commissioners. Chairman Kurt Holbert (Decaturville), Dennis Gardner (Lebanon), Connie King (Clarksville), Tony Sanders (Hixon), and James Stroud (Dyersburg) were all recognized for their contributions.

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