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¹Using U.S. and imported parts.

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The Worm Gear Clamp by Ideal Tridon in Smyrna is helical threaded and prevents hose connections from loosening or leaking. It placed among the top 16 products in this year's Coolest Thing Made in Tennessee competition. See the story on page 28. Photograph courtesy of Ideal Tridon

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ABOUT THE COVER

Our first-place winner in the Junior category of the latest Shutterbug Photography Contest is Kimberly Bunten's "Sarah's Evening Hope." Kimberly lives in the Mountain Electric Cooperative service area. See more winning and honorable mention photos beginning on page 16.

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Corporation provides safe, affordable and reliable services the cooperative way by maintaining a dedicated, highly skilled workforce guided by cooperative values and principles and a commitment to excellence.

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Between the Lines

News from your community

Join us for CEMC's 86th annual meeting

The 86th annual meeting of Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation will be held on Saturday, Sept. 28, and we would love to see you there! This year, we will meet at White House Heritage High School in Robertson County.

Doors will open at 8 a.m. for registration, and the business session will begin at 10 a.m. Between times, you will have the opportunity to pick up your attendance gift (one per registered member, while supplies last), enjoy a complimentary breakfast, browse through the selection of door prizes to be given away, enjoy musical entertainment provided by Rising Creek, visit our informational booths and bring the kids to enjoy the youth corner, which will include inflatables (weather permitting) and age-appropriate prizes.

Three directors are seeking re-election to the board, and you can learn more about each candidate on page 20 of this magazine. Since each incumbent director is running unopposed this year, the nominated candidates will be appointed to new three-year terms during the business

session. We will also present the financial report and review the cooperative's activities during the past fiscal year.

Members who cannot attend the meeting will still have the chance to win \$100 electric bill credits and receive giveaways by attending early registration at one of CEMC's business offices on Friday, Sept. 27, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Early registration will be conducted via drive-thru at each location, making participation quick, easy and convenient.

CEMC's annual meeting is an excellent opportunity to learn more about your electric cooperative, catch up with friends and neighbors and maybe even win a prize! We look forward to seeing you at White House Heritage High School on Sept. 28 for our annual meeting.



By Chris A. Davis

*General Manager,
Cumberland Electric
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TENNESSEE TODAY

Viewpoint

Just after waking

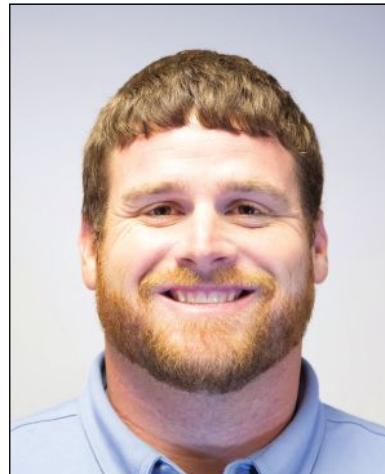
Coping with loss and honoring our fallen

When you woke up this morning, what was immediately on your mind? Many of us might have simply been looking forward to our first cup of coffee and wondering what the day could bring. For others, it might have been a strong desire to press snooze one more time and delay the coming responsibilities we face. Or perhaps you didn't even make it to the alarm as a needy child ended your night's sleep prematurely, and you tended to their needs instead of your own.

I read once that for many military spouses whose significant others are deployed, the time just after waking is often filled with dread and anxiety about what the day's events might bring. That is understandable. Since it's doubtful that anyone would choose dread and anxiety as a way to start the day, perhaps there is some scientific explanation about those military spouses and their brains' early morning focus that I don't know about.

But I do know this: If you have reason to worry about the worst, that fear can be very painful. And if you have faced actual loss, grief is nonnegotiable.

Unfortunately, some of Tennessee's hardest working people are currently experiencing deep pain and searing grief after the loss of one of their brothers. Electric lineworkers have difficult and dangerous jobs. The work



Nathan Potter



By Mike Knotts
Tennessee Electric
Cooperative Association

involves physical labor that taxes their bodies. The work exposes them to many hazards, both manmade and natural. Despite extensive training and focus on safety, sometimes bad things do occur.

In late July, Nathan Potter began his day at home in Bean Station and headed out to

work as he had done for many years. I don't know what specifically was on his mind that morning, but as a journeyman lineworker at Appalachian Electric Cooperative, Nate was well-trained and knew that his job is essential to the community.

While lineworkers are not often appreciated or recognized for the work they do, they are critical to the way you and I live. Think through your own morning routine, and tell me what part doesn't involve electric power. These unsung heroes are all around us and perform their jobs in

relative anonymity without any real need for praise or attention. Most of the lineworkers I know prefer it that way.

But sometimes life is not fair. Accidents can happen. And the worst outcome can arrive in places where it does not belong. Nate suffered an accident that morning while working. And it took his life.

His friends, coworkers, church family and countless others felt the immediate and extra sharp pain that an unexpected loss brings. For his precious family, worry about the worst was

replaced with unspeakable grief, and the joy that should cometh in the morning might not be experienced for some time to come.

But as was noted in his obituary, "Nathan's life was also filled with the joy (emphasis added) of being a

While lineworkers are not often appreciated or recognized for the work they do, they are critical to the way you and I live. Think through your own morning routine, and tell me what part doesn't involve electric power. These unsung heroes are all around us and perform their jobs in relative anonymity without any real need for praise or attention.

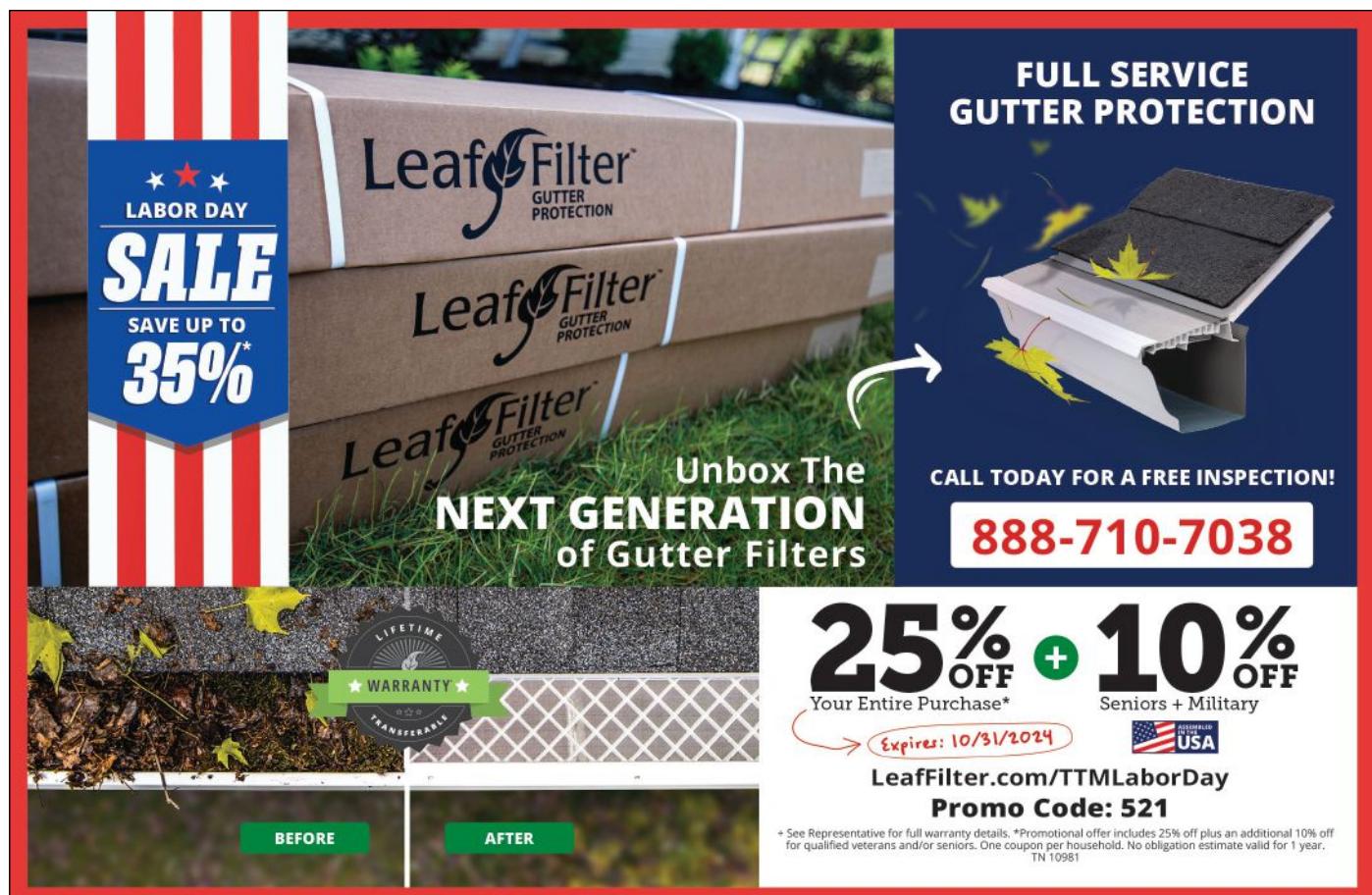
Most of the lineworkers I know prefer it that way.

husband and a father of three wonderful daughters." Big Nate was beloved and touched all those around him. He served his fellow man with honor and dignity through his profession, his church, his friendships and so much more. The legacy he leaves behind is one of honor, devotion, dedication, duty and joy — a life well-lived and worthy of praise.

For Nate's wife and three young children, however, there is no snooze button that can delay the grief they are experiencing. Many a night will stretch into the

morning as their emotional needs are cared for.

So I pray that those quiet moments at the first of each day would strengthen Nate's family with the peace that passes all understanding. And I ask that you join me in doing so — today and for the years to come. ■



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TENNESSEE ALMANAC

Bite-sized news, notes and knowledge — September 2024

This month in Tennessee History

Sept. 6, 1916

Supermarket Piggly Wiggly is established by Clarence Saunders in Memphis. The grand opening isn't held until Sept. 11 due to construction delays.

Sept. 12-Oct. 12, 1910

Appalachian Exposition of 1910. According to the Tennessee Encyclopedia, "The intention of the fair was to demonstrate progress in Southern industry and commerce. Moreover, it promoted the conservation of the region's natural resources, advocating their responsible exploitation for utilitarian (serving the public good) rather than aesthetic or ecological purposes."

Sept. 14, 1886

George K. Anderson of Memphis patents typewriter ribbon.

Sept. 18-20, 1863

Battle of Chickamauga and Chattanooga.

Sept. 21, 1925

The Tennessee War Memorial Building in Nashville is dedicated and opened to the public.

Sept. 28, 1963

"Tennessee Tuxedo and His Tales" cartoon voiced by Don Adams and Larry Scorch debuts on CBS-TV.

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From the editor



My introduction last month hit a reminiscent tone, and I ask our patient readers to indulge me again. As I put ink to paper (figuratively ... I'm not as "old school" as Antsy McClain — see page 10), my two daughters are settling in with new routines at new schools. Our oldest is now a high school freshman, and the youngest is off to sixth grade.

Over the last week or so, social media memories have showered me and my wife with photos from past first days of school. It's been fun remembering the changing hairstyles and favorite colors of these two kids as they started each new school year. Each smile might have a hint of nervousness, but more evident is excitement — for new challenges in the classroom and catching up with friends separated during summer.

Along those lines, *The Tennessee Magazine* has some exciting developments coming down the pike in a few months. And that has us curious about how the magazine has touched its readers over nearly 70 years.

Do you have special memories tied to *The Tennessee Magazine*? For a favorite dinner, did your mother pull out a worn, creased page saved from the magazine years earlier? Does your family compete for an ice cream sundae in a high-stakes contest to see who is the first to find the flag? Did you appear in the magazine, showcasing a special skill or achievement?

We want to hear from you. Email your stories about *The Tennessee Magazine* to memories@tnmagazine.org. We'll share more details in future editions of the magazine as well as on our social media channels, but this is your friendly heads-up that exciting things are coming soon!

Thanks for sharing your stories, and, as always, thanks for reading,

Chris Kirk

Editor, *The Tennessee Magazine*

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My TENNESSEE Notebook

by Antsy McClain

Old school

Some thoughts on what it means to be 'old school,' along with some actual old schools across the state

At my age, I'm having to accept the fact that "old school" can be applied to just about everything about me.

One such case in point: I own a lava lamp.¹

Most of my furniture was built before 1965 and has been reupholstered.² My adulthood has been one long treasure hunt, collecting tables, chairs and lamps from my midcentury childhood. I bought it all for a song years ago, before the "Mad Men" television show made midcentury furniture hip again — and subsequently expensive.

One of life's strangest phenomenona is to walk into an antiques store and see your childhood toys on display with tags that say "vintage."³

It happens to all of us if we live long enough. If you're in your 40s and you haven't been to an antiques store in a while, give yourself a heart-aching treat, and ask to see the toys.

As an "old schooler," my home is now sufficiently

stocked with furniture that evokes warm childhood memories, reflections of my parents, my grandparents, my aunts and my uncles. My estate sale is gonna rock.

I brew my coffee "old school."⁴ As an artist, I paint and draw with pencils and brushes. I read actual books and magazines. And I record my music "old school."⁵

I am fairly proficient at computers, but I swear I am just one more forced password change away from typing in ALL CAPS and screaming, "SO, THIS IS WHAT WE'VE COME TO!?" into the walls. (Obscenities omitted. You're welcome.)⁶

I like a lot of life's modern conveniences, but I'm beginning to grow bewildered at unnecessary complexity in the things we use. The dashboard of my car has 327 functions. I only use three. My television remote has 36 buttons, 32 of which are a complete mystery to me. My

Fairview Elementary School, Maryville

Fairview Elementary School is nestled against the misty foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Maryville. It has changed a lot over its 100-plus-year history. Originally named Mt. Emory School, it was nicknamed Shake Rag because the teacher would stand at the door and shake a rag to signal the beginning of each school day. Now a state-of-the-art, modern building, it started as a two-story framed schoolhouse with a modest gymnasium on the second floor. Children would carry coal from their homes to be used in the stoves to heat the four classrooms on the first floor. Fairview received its name because of the beautiful view of the Great Smoky Mountains from the school's playground. (Photo courtesy of Fairview Elementary School)



AN ACTUAL OLD SCHOOL

¹ Actually, I have never **not** owned a lava lamp. It was one of the first things I bought with my own money when I was 14. I currently own five, so I can be reminded that I am old in every room of my house.

² I love most midcentury furniture — except for the sofas. Midcentury sofas were designed not like the spongy, almost-beds we have in our living rooms today. They were once thin, bony rest stops for "drop-in guests," a strange and curious bygone breed — now, thankfully, extinct — who would appear at our front doors, uninvited and unannounced. It

was customary to make them coffee, serve them cookies and chat for an indeterminable length of time on any given afternoon. Midcentury homes were equipped with front rooms, called sitting rooms, for the express purpose of entertaining drop-in guests, insurance salesmen and, if you lived in my house, the occasional police officer who "just needed to ask a few questions."

³ A fancy word for "old and used," like me.

⁴ I actually have a new coffee maker, and it's the most complicated of all my

kitchen appliances. The microwave and dishwasher require but one button to operate. My coffee maker requires a litany of choreographed ritual akin to an orthodox wedding ceremony. It needs a new filter. Every time. It needs fresh water, poured into a specific reservoir. The coffee needs to be ground in a separate machine before I put it into the filter. And a cluster of illuminated buttons at its base resemble the decorated chest of a war hero. Apparently I can program a pot of coffee to brew on Tuesday, May 18, 2032. The irony is I have to deal with all of this before I've had coffee!

kitchen is filled with electronic gadgetry that is nice when it all works but is a major aggravation when it doesn't.⁷

I'm so "old school," my first days of school started after Labor Day weekend in September. My summers lasted three long months, from Memorial Day to Labor Day. The summers were so long, that by July 4, we were all complaining about how bored we were. This was before video games, so of course we were bored. All we had were bicycles. There is only so much you can do with a bicycle.

That first day of school was filled with excitement and anticipation. Who had new haircuts? Who had a growth spurt over the summer? Who had a cast on their arm that we could all sign? The newly polished hallway floors, as yet untracked by our Keds and Buster Browns, still carried the scent of industrial-strength Mr. Clean. And the new clothes smell, when carried by hundreds of kids at once — before recess when we all took on that playground funk of sweat and preteen optimism — is a force to be reckoned with. Our mothers had spent late summer afternoons at Kmart,⁸ taking advantage of the back-to-school sales. I was prone to accompany her on those shopping errands to prevent the recurrence of The Lunchbox Debacle of '71.⁹

Aside from my cousin's hand-me-downs, my grade school wardrobe consisted entirely of off-brands. My jeans were labeled with close-but-no-cigar names like "Rangled" or "Lee-Vy's," and my ill-fitting tennis shoes had the name "Comvurse" sloppily embroidered on the outside ankles. My G.I. Joe was actually "G.I. Moe." His hair was molded plastic like the rest of him, not that amazing swatch of G.I. Joe fiber that felt like a cat's tongue. These brands — a mere fraction of the cost of

Oak Hill School, Jonesborough

Oak Hill School was built in 1886 to serve the community of Knob Creek, near Jonesborough in the northeast tip of Tennessee. The building served local residents as a school and as a center for community events until it was closed in the 1950s. Except for a few bales of hay, remnants of the "old school" history, Oak Hill School sat unoccupied until the development and expansion of nearby Johnson City. Property owners, in partnership with the Jonesborough/Washington County History Museum, saved the structure from demolition and relocated it to Jonesborough. In its current location, Oak Hill School has been lovingly restored to the way it appeared in the 1890s. Builders used paint analysis to find the original wall color and collected oral histories from living alumni to ensure that those who enter the doors today can see what students in Knob Creek would have seen over a century ago. Today, Oak Hill School invites students and adult chaperones to come for day-long field trips and enroll in the class of 1892-93. Reading, writing, arithmetic, history, geography — even the Pledge of Allegiance — are all taught just as they were prior to the turn of the last century. The program lasts about five hours and is available from March to November. To schedule a field trip to Oak Hill School, call the Heritage Alliance at 423-753-9580 Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. or email education@heritageall.org. (Photo courtesy of the Oak Hill School Heritage Education Program)



⁵ I record my songs "old school," meaning I use analog (real) instruments and I eschew Auto-Tune, the software that makes everything "pitch perfect" until everybody sounds like computerized chipmunks. It sounds cool for a few minutes, and software can do amazing things, but I like my music to sound like it was made by humans. I prefer hearing "evidence of the hand," a little mistake here and there, the squeak of a string, the light thumping sound a piano makes when fingers have attacked appropriately. Some might call that "old school," but I've always just called it music.

⁶ I scream at my computer every three days whether it needs it or not. I often scream in a voice I don't recognize. My neighbors, whose homes are a good 20 yards away on either side, frequently text me to ask, "Did anyone else hear Yoko Ono just now?"

⁷ Show of hands, how many of you are happy with your refrigerator's ice dispenser? I don't know anyone who is if their fridge is more than six months old. I keep 1970s-style ice trays as backup

for those nights I might need more than two and a half glasses of ice, which in my house, is every afternoon by 5:30. I've gotten so used to the dry, grinding drone of the ice maker that I've made up a song to go with it. I use a melody from "Fiddler on the Roof" and sing it almost like a prayer: "Ice maker, ice maker, make me some ice ..." But mostly it just grinds, grunts, pops out one little cube and sighs satisfactorily as if it just passed a kidney stone.

⁸ Kmart was a pre-Walmart chain of department stores that flourished when I was a kid in the 1970s. As of May 2024, there are only 12 Kmart's left in the United States. Considered a pioneer in modern suburban-style shopping, Kmart was the first department store to have a bakery and an optometrist's office. It even had a dentist on site. My dental check-ups and fillings were conducted at Kmart Dental, located inside our local Kmart store. I remember one day heading home from Kmart, my mouth swollen and numb from the dental ordeal. Mom and Aunt Sandy lit their Kool menthols and gushed

about the Blue Light Special deals on toaster ovens and half-price hunting socks they put on layaway for Christmas gifts. I can still taste the Novocain, dental paste and cigarette smoke. I have two cousins who were proposed to at Kmart, one in the jewelry department (divorced after three years) and the other in the parking lot under some trees (still married). If you removed Kmart from my formative years, all that would be left is a worn tire swing, chicken pox and sad, unrequited love.

⁹ Mom had returned from Kmart with a scratch-and-dent, nonreturnable lunch box bearing the over-coiffured likenesses of the Carpenters. I had started to exhibit some interest in pop music and might have mentioned a fondness for their song "Close to You" while listening to AM radio in the family car. And it's a great song, probably a perfect song by most songwriting standards, but I would never have asked for a Carpenter's lunchbox. Karen and Richard Carpenter were very hip in 1971 if you were an adult homemaker with two kids. But if you were a 9-year-old boy carrying a

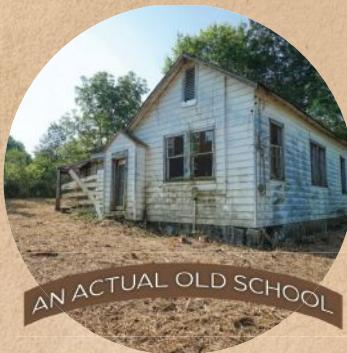
Footnotes to answer life's hardest questions, continued

Lee-Buckner School and the Rosenwald schools

In the early 20th century, Southern public schools were segregated, and many African American children attended makeshift schools in churches and barns, without sufficient books and supplies and, in many instances, even without teachers.

Booker T. Washington (founder and president of Tuskegee Institute) and Julius Rosenwald (philanthropist and president of Sears, Roebuck & Co.), formed a partnership in 1913 to bridge the educational divide by building "Rosenwald schools" to help support educational equality for African American children in the southern United States.

Rosenwald schools modeled progressive theory and practice, provided sanctuary and secured educational opportunities for those who would have otherwise been overlooked.



Between 1912 and 1932, thousands of Rosenwald schools sprung up across the South, educating an estimated 663,625 students, including poet Maya Angelou, civil rights activist Medgar Evers and U.S. Rep. John Lewis.

Today, only about 10% of the 5,357 schools, shops and teacher homes remain. Lee-Buckner is the last remaining Rosenwald school in Williamson County. It was one of Tennessee's 375 Rosenwald schools when the doors opened in 1927.

The Heritage Foundation of Williamson County purchased the schoolhouse in 2018, preventing its demolition by developers who had bought the property where it originally stood. It was relocated to Franklin Grove Estates and Gardens, and plans are for the building to be restored "old school," using materials and techniques of the day as well as installing an exhibit detailing the school's history. It will be completed by early 2026. (Photo courtesy of the Heritage Foundation of Williamson County)

the real deals — undoubtedly passed my mother's muster, but my preteen peer group saw through it all like plastic wrap. I was covered in counterfeit clothing made of denim, polyester and shame.

I totally recognize my youthful misappropriations now, of course. Obsessive devotion for name-brand clothing is shallow and ultimately meaningless. But I was a kid, and peer pressure was real. I was raised in trailer parks. Dad was a truck driver. Mom sold Avon. I never went hungry, and I always had what I needed, but we didn't have the money for name-brand toys or clothing, so we had to get creative.

When I got to high school, I wanted to wear the popular Izod sweaters — you know, with the little alligator on the breast — but I didn't have that kind of money. I could, however, afford a \$14 pair of Izod socks, and two Kmart sweaters for \$10. I persuaded my mom to remove the alligators from the socks and sew them onto the cheap sweaters. Mom loved me, and she was excited to be my accomplice in this clandestine, teenage scam. I'm not proud of this, and I've never shared this with anyone, but I wore those impostor sweaters that whole year, even though they were quickly unraveling in places and had shrunk in the wash so much, they could have fit my kid sister. (My first realization that you really do get what you pay for.) But an

alligator is an alligator, and I was dating a pretty girl from the suburbs with a discernible taste for preppy guys.¹⁰

Well, that was then, and this is now, as they say. When I was a kid, I looked at guys my age now and thought they were ancient. Now, I look at guys my age and see contemporaries. On good days when the back and knees don't hurt, we all still think we're 19. I look into the eyes of my friends and remember the teenager. It's not difficult to see the child in there, even still.

To our beloved young readers, welcome back to school, and remember that time keeps marching. It's another year with growth, accomplishments and disappointments. You'll crash through school year after school year until one day you'll realize you're an adult. Someone will call you "sir" or "ma'am" in the checkout line, and you'll be speechless, stunned. Every "old schooler" remembers the first time that happened. Adulthood seems to creep up on us by accident.

And one day, not long after that, mark my words, you'll be called "old school" by a younger generation.

And when that happens, I hope you'll feel the way I do. I look back with wide-eyed wonder at all the miles I've accrued, the love I've known, even the pain I've felt. And I marvel at how far I've made it while staying (relatively) sane and in one piece.

When someone calls me "old school," I smile and say thank you. ■

Listen to the songs "Mary Lou's Christmas List" and "Picking Up Speed (When You're Over the Hill)" here:

These two songs pair well with this article, and relate to everyone who might also consider themselves "old school."

Antsy McClain is a Nashville-adjacent singer songwriter, author and graphic artist who still doesn't wear name-brand clothing. Go to unhitched.com for his books, music and events. Use this QR code to download these songs and more **FREE** to readers of **The Tennessee Magazine**.



Footnotes continued to answer life's hardest questions

Carpenters lunch box through your elementary school, you were just begging to be bullied. The lunchbox did, however, lead to a conversation with my favorite teacher, Ms. Stevens, upon whom I had a major crush. I beamed as she commended me for my good taste. Then she told me "We've Only Just Begun" was played at her wedding. I smiled, fighting back a sharp pang of jealousy toward Mr. Stevens. I tried to hide the sadness I felt in knowing I would never taste the exquisite joy of a life with this beautiful, intelligent English teacher, and I resented the lunchbox even more. I "lost" the Carpenters lunchbox one day in a garbage can in the school cafeteria. From that day forth, I carried my lunch in a wrinkled brown paper bag, the color and texture of my sad, 9-year-old heart.

¹⁰ For "preppy," see Kevin Bacon in "Guiding Light," 1980, or Rob Lowe in "About Last Night," 1986. Or don't. Seriously, it's not worth the trouble. Forget I even mentioned it. ■

How a Safe Step Walk-In Tub can change your life

Remember when...

Think about the things you loved to do that are difficult today — going for a walk or just sitting comfortably while reading a book. And remember the last time you got a great night's sleep?

As we get older, health issues or even everyday aches, pains and stress can prevent us from enjoying life.

So what's keeping you from having a better quality of life?

Check all the conditions that apply to you.

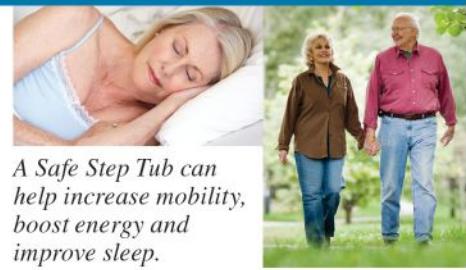
Personal Checklist:

<input type="checkbox"/> Arthritis	<input type="checkbox"/> Dry Skin
<input type="checkbox"/> Insomnia	<input type="checkbox"/> Anxiety
<input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes	<input type="checkbox"/> Mobility Issues
<input type="checkbox"/> Lower Back Pain	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor Circulation

Then read on to learn how a Safe Step Walk-In Tub can help.

Feel better, sleep better, live better

A Safe Step Walk-In Tub lets you indulge in a warm, relaxing bath that can help relieve life's aches, pains and worries.



A Safe Step Tub can help increase mobility, boost energy and improve sleep.

It's got everything you should look for in a walk-in tub:

- Heated Seat – Providing soothing warmth from start to finish.
- *MicroSoothe®* Air Therapy System – helps oxygenate and soften skin while offering therapeutic benefits.
- Pain-relieving therapy – Hydro massage jets target sore muscles and joints.
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FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Call Toll-Free **1-800-991-8218**

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Market restrictions may apply. Offer available in select markets only.

Safe Step includes more standard therapeutic and safety features than any other tub on the market, plus the best warranty in the industry:

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Complete
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on the Tub

Personal Hygiene
Therapy System
and Bidet

Anti-Slip Tub Floor



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Massaging
Jets

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The Industry's
Leading Low Step-In

Heated Seat and Back
Electronic Keypad
MicroSoothe® Air Therapy System

New Rapid Fill
Faucet





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Outer Banks

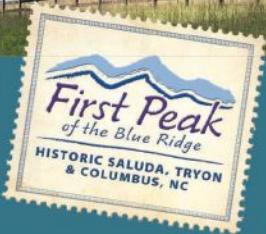
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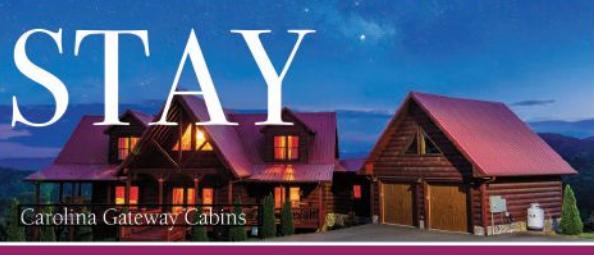
A View For All Seasons

Bakersville, Little Switzerland, Spruce Pine

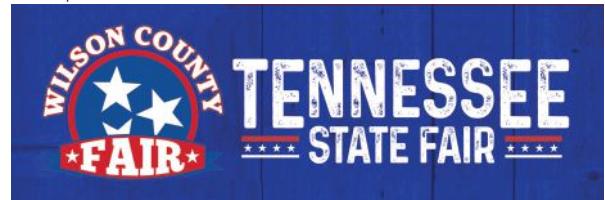
Mitchell County, NC



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In cooperation with



SHUTTERBUG SHOWCASE

Shutterbugs entered nearly 1,000 images in our photography contest in partnership with the Wilson County-Tennessee State Fair. Sharing the fair's theme, "95 Reasons to Celebrate Tennessee — Sow the Fun. Harvest the Memories," we received entries from across the state honoring and spotlighting all that makes Tennessee a great place to live, work and play.

Guest judges Lacy Atkins and Robin Conover, both award-winning photographers, returned to help select the winners in each of our three categories: Junior, Professional and Adult Shutterbugs. Thank you to everyone who submitted photographs. Be sure to visit tnmagazine.org to view these winning entries and additional images recognized as finalists.



^ FIRST PLACE, ADULT, "Skipping Into Sunshine," Rane Moffitt, Pickwick EC, McNairy County



16 The Tennessee Magazine



FIRST PLACE, PROFESSIONAL,
"Honest Work," Andrew Denning, Wilson County

< FIRST PLACE, JUNIOR, "Sarah's Evening Hope,"
Kimberly Bunten, Mountain EC, Carter County



^ SECOND PLACE, JUNIOR, "Walking in the Woods," Elden Van Neste, Upper Cumberland EMC, Jackson County



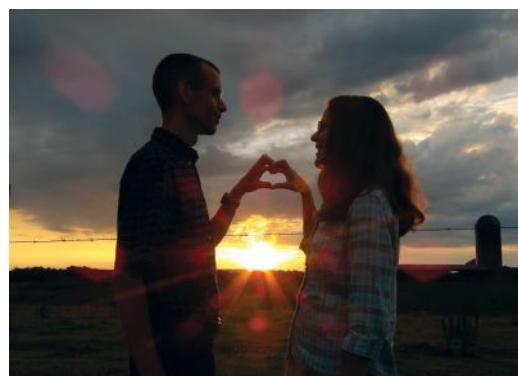
^ THIRD PLACE, ADULT,
"Evening Glow," Donna Mullins,
Volunteer Energy Cooperative,
Hamilton County



^ SECOND PLACE, ADULT, "All American Girl," Danielle Head, Cumberland EMC, Robertson County



^ SECOND PLACE, PROFESSIONAL,
"Summer Fun," Howard Litvack, Middle Tennessee Electric, Williamson County



< THIRD PLACE, JUNIOR, "Golden Love,"
Hannah Dietrich, Sequachee Valley EC,
Bledsoe County

THIRD PLACE, PROFESSIONAL >,
"The Start of the Tims Ford
Bass Classic Fishing Tournament,"
Carl Banks, Duck River EMC,
Franklin County

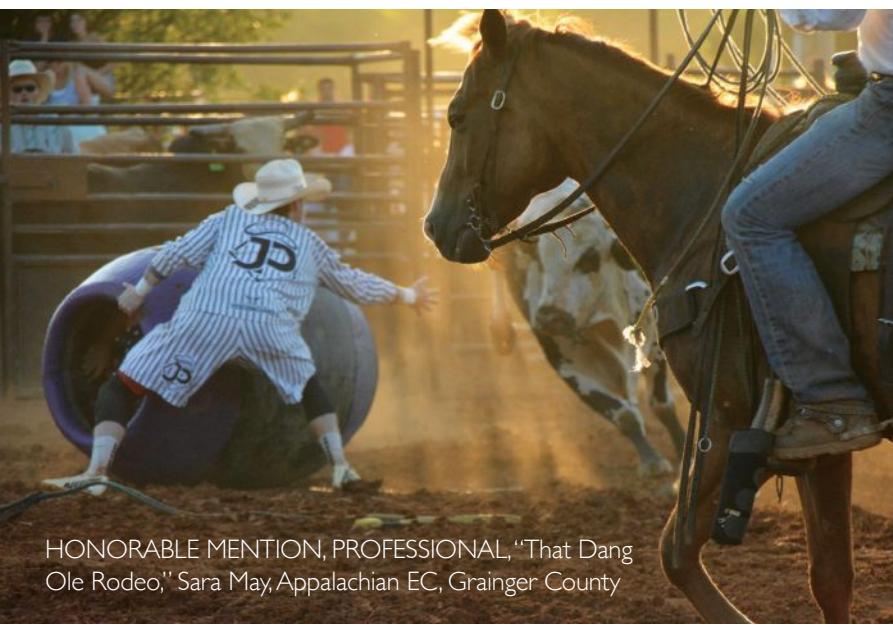




^ HONORABLE MENTION, PROFESSIONAL,
"Fishers of Men," Keegan Dietz, Middle Tennessee Electric,
Rutherford County



^ HONORABLE MENTION, PROFESSIONAL, "Sunset Bass on the Water," Kevin Howard, Tennessee Valley EC, Hardin County



HONORABLE MENTION, PROFESSIONAL, "That Dang Ole Rodeo," Sara May, Appalachian EC, Grainger County



^ HONORABLE MENTION, JUNIOR, "Bates Hill Barn,"
Zoey Holt, Caney Fork EC, Warren County



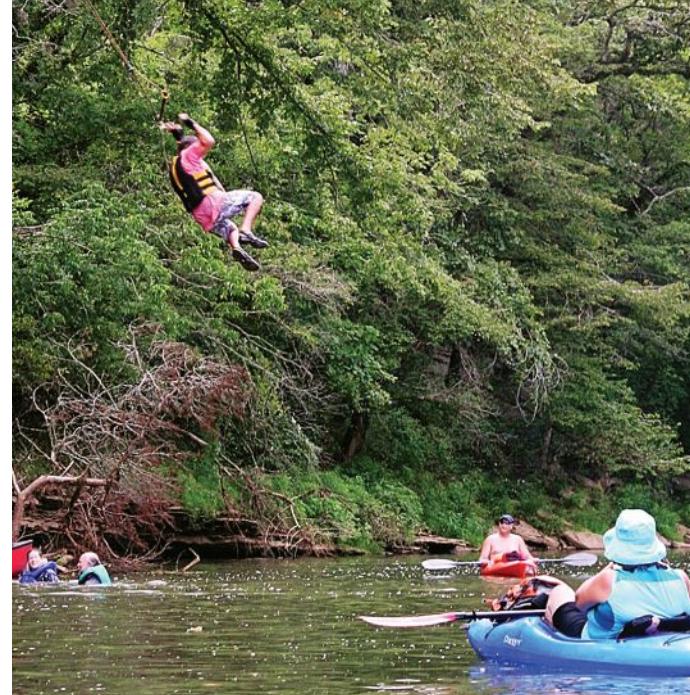
^ HONORABLE MENTION, PROFESSIONAL, "Holston River,"
Randy Ball, Holston EC, Hawkins County



^ HONORABLE MENTION, PROFESSIONAL,
"Summer Fun," Howard Litvack, Middle Tennessee Electric,
Williamson County



^ HONORABLE MENTION, JUNIOR, "Rock Island Waterfalls,"
Kaden Schreher, Middle Tennessee Electric, Wilson County



^ HONORABLE MENTION, ADULT, "Summer Fling,"
Leslie Dunn, Cumberland EMC, Grundy County



^ HONORABLE MENTION, JUNIOR, "Tree of Vines,"
Micah Hughes, Southwest Tennessee EMC, Madison
County



^ HONORABLE MENTION, ADULT,
"Old Burgess Falls Bridge," Patsy Dunn,
Cumberland EMC, Putnam County



^ HONORABLE MENTION, ADULT, "Double Vision,"
Christopher Little, Appalachian EC, Hawkins County

< HONORABLE MENTION, ADULT, "Lake Daze," Stephanie
Eraquam (Peters), Volunteer Energy Cooperative, Rhea County

Meet CEMC's 2024 director candidates

Three seats on Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation's board of directors will be filled during the cooperative's 2024 annual meeting on Saturday, Sept. 28, at White House Heritage High School in Robertson County. Members will elect directors to fill the North Robertson, South Stewart

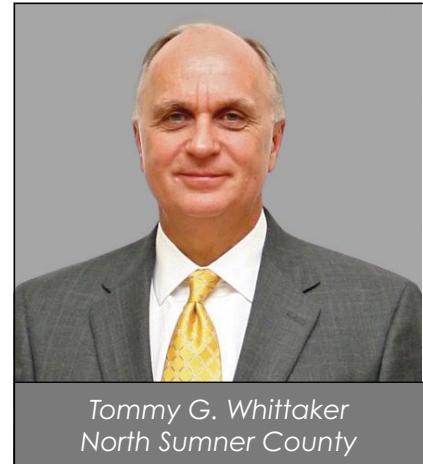
and North Sumner positions. CEMC's nominating committee met July 22 and recommended incumbent directors Rodney Swearingen, James (Bryan) Watson and Tommy G. Whittaker for re-election for new three-year terms. Each director is running unopposed.



Rodney Swearingen
North Robertson County



Bryan Watson
South Stewart County



Tommy G. Whittaker
North Sumner County

Rodney Swearingen of Cross Plains is the nominee from North Robertson County. He was appointed in March to serve the remainder of the term of Andy Mason, who retired this year.

Swearingen has been employed by Farm Bureau Insurance in Robertson County for 18 years and currently serves as an agency manager.

He graduated from the University of Tennessee at Martin in 2000 with a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice.

He is the father of a son, Hayden, and a daughter, Reese. In his spare time, he enjoys working on his farm, tending to livestock and assisting his local high school's athletic programs.

The nominee from South Stewart County is James (Bryan) Watson of Dover. Watson has served on the board since 2020.

He recently retired from F&M Bank in Dover, where he served as branch manager and senior vice president. A Murray State University graduate, he has over 40 years of experience in the banking industry.

Watson serves as chairman of Stewart County's Economic and Community Development. He is also the Finance Committee chairman at Fort Donelson Memorial United Methodist Church, where he volunteers for the backpack program, and an EdPro Development Inc. board member.

He and his wife, Tracy, reside in Dover. The Watsons have two grown daughters, Jessica Crutcher and Kristin Powell, and five grandchildren.

North Sumner County's board nominee is Tommy G. Whittaker of Portland. Whittaker has served on the board since 2004 and has served as board president since 2014.

He retired as president and CEO of The Farmers Bank in Portland, where he was employed for 45 years.

He is a 1974 business administration graduate from the University of Tennessee. He has also completed the required coursework for Credentialed Cooperative Director, Board Leadership and Director Gold certifications from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Whittaker and his wife, Shirley, have a daughter, Susan; a son, Joseph; and four grandchildren.

Did somebody mention prizes?

Check out a few of the great prizes we'll be giving away at this year's annual meeting



Sony PlayStation 5
Gaming Console

Multiple CEMC bill credits valued between \$50 and \$250 will be given away!

Six college scholarships worth \$500 each will be given away!

GRAND PRIZE



The Grand Prize is a "create-your-own" energy-efficiency makeover from Lowe's.

The winner will receive a Lowe's gift card.



55-inch Amazon Fire TV

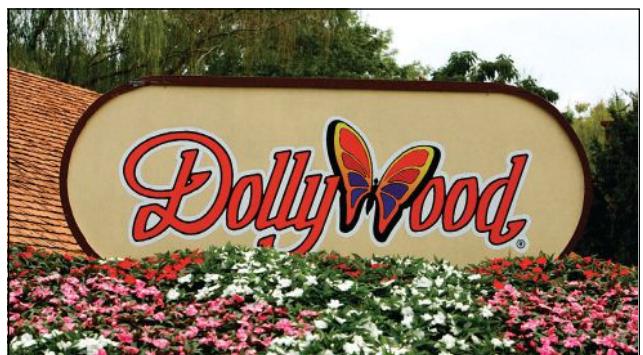
The Outdoor Adventure Package will include a Tennessee State Parks gift card, trekking poles, hiking pack, binoculars and lantern.

The Smart Cleaning Package will include a robot vacuum/mop, steam cleaner, air purifier and cleaning products.

The Pick Tennessee Products Package includes a handmade lap quilt, two Hinkle rocking chairs and Lodge cast iron skillets.



The Grand Ole Christmas Package includes two tickets to the Opry Country Christmas show on Dec. 16 and a \$100 gift card to the Caney Fork River Valley Grille.



The Gatlinburg Retreat includes a \$250 gift card for lodging, a \$200 Dollywood Parks and Resort gift certificate, a \$50 gas card and a \$50 gift card to The Peddler Steakhouse.

Why should you attend CEMC's annual meeting?



Enjoy musical entertainment provided by Rising Creek at Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation's 86th annual meeting.

Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation's annual meeting is designed to take care of the important business of your co-op — electing directors, sharing financial information and recapping the year's activities — but we plan to have some fun in the process!

We'll have a FREE, tasty breakfast, activities and prizes for the kids at the Youth Corner, musical entertainment provided by Rising Creek, various informational booths and lots of exciting prizes to be given away throughout the meeting. (See page 21 for a peek at a few of the prizes.)

This year's annual meeting will be held Saturday, Sept. 28, at White House Heritage High School in Robertson County. Doors open at 8 a.m. for registration and voting, and the business session begins at 10 a.m. Director election results and prize winners will be announced during the business session. You must be present to win prizes, so be sure to stick around.

If you've never attended before, join us this year to see what you've been missing. There truly is something for everyone at CEMC's annual meeting! We hope to see you there!



Bring the kids and enjoy the fun Saturday, Sept. 28, at White House Heritage High School for CEMC's annual meeting.

Go above and beyond for a safe harvest

Modern farming often relies on data and equipment with GPS and auto-guidance systems. However, even with these modern conveniences, farm workers must remain vigilant. That's because farming is considered one of the most dangerous jobs.

Massive machinery is indispensable to farming, but the same impressive size, height and extensions make them particularly vulnerable to contacting power lines. That's why staying alert, focused and knowledgeable about potential hazards and safety procedures is crucial.

During a busy harvest season, the familiar sights around the farm can easily fade into the background, and farm workers can overlook the power lines overhead. However, failing to notice them can lead to deadly accidents.

360 awareness

Awareness of your surroundings — around, above and below — and planning safe equipment routes can significantly reduce the risk of accidents. Even with GPS and auto-steering, it's imperative that farm workers keep a close eye on the equipment's location and are ready to take action if necessary.

Exposed underground power lines, defective wiring in farm buildings and extension cords are also hazards. Grain bins can pose a potential danger as well. The National Electrical Safety Code requires power lines to be at least 18 feet above the highest point on any grain bin with which portable augers or other portable filling equipment are used. If you plan to install new grain bins or you're concerned about the proximity of power lines to existing grain bins, contact Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation.

Harvest safety tips

To ensure a safer harvest season, SafeElectricity.org recommends these tips to avoid electrical accidents on the farm:

- **Exercise caution near power lines.** Be careful

when raising augers or the bed of grain trucks around power lines.

- **Use spotters when operating large machinery near power lines.** Ensure the spotters do not touch the machinery while it is moving near power lines.
- **Lower equipment extensions, portable augers or elevators before moving or transporting equipment.** Do not raise equipment such as ladders, poles or rods into power lines. Remember that nonmetallic materials like lumber, tree limbs, ropes and hay can conduct electricity, especially when damp, dusty or dirty.
- **Never attempt to raise or move power lines to clear a path.** Doing so could result in electric shock or death.
- **Avoid using metal poles inside bins.** Don't use metal poles to break up bridged grain inside or around bins.
- **Hire qualified electricians.** Ensure that qualified electricians handle work on drying equipment and other farm electrical systems.

While rare, the only reason to exit equipment that has come into contact with overhead lines is if the equipment is on fire. However, if it happens, jump off the equipment with your feet together and without touching the machinery and the ground at the same time. Then, still keeping your feet together, hop to safety as you leave the area.

5 Tips for a Safe Harvest

Electrical safety during harvest season requires vigilance and proactive measures. Follow these tips to reduce the risk of electrical accidents.

1. Maintain at least a 10-foot distance from power lines when operating equipment like grain augers, elevators and other tall machinery.
2. Use a spotter to navigate safely around power lines and other electrical equipment.
3. Ensure all farm workers are trained on electrical safety procedures.
4. Regularly inspect all electrical equipment and machinery for signs of wear and damage.
5. Keep first-aid kits and emergency contact numbers in an easily accessible location.





Electrical Safety Tips for Hunters

We encourage all members to be aware of electrical equipment while hunting. Keep these safety tips in mind as you enjoy the great outdoors.

- Keep clear of electrical equipment.
- Do not shoot at or near power lines or insulators.
- Know where power lines and equipment are located where you hunt.
- Be vigilant in wooded areas where power lines may not be as visible.
- Never place deer stands on utility poles.
- Never place decoys on power lines or other utility equipment.

Need new appliances? Now's a good time

You can save a bundle on major appliances during Labor Day sales.

At this time of the year, stores are making room for next year's models of refrigerators, stoves, dishwashers, microwave ovens and washers and dryers, which they introduce in September and October. So they often offer deep discounts during end-of-summer sales.

Look on retailers' websites for coupons that can shave even more off the price of kitchen and laundry room appliances.

Not ready to buy? Mark your calendars for upcoming sales throughout the year, especially on:

- Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving. Look for appliance "packages;" you'll save extra if you buy several appliances from the same store at once.



- The week after Christmas. All of next year's new models will be fully in stock by then, so stores will put last year's appliances on clearance.

- New Year's Day and Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday are big sale days in January. And look for big sales on Presidents Day in February.
- During the spring, stores advertise sales on small appliances like microwaves and coffee makers that might interest high school and college graduates who will need to furnish dorm rooms or new apartments in the coming months.

- Look for sales on major appliances around Mother's Day and Memorial Day in May and on tools and electronics in mid-June when children are buying gifts for Father's Day.

The world of

SMART FARMING

As September rolls in, farms all across the Tennessee landscape are in the midst of harvest season. While this time of year certainly can be stressful for our farmers, the rise of smart agricultural technology can alleviate just a bit of that stress. The Internet of Things is making its mark in the agricultural world — and we're taking a look at some of the most effective (and interesting) smart farming technology available today.

A defining characteristic of most smart technology is being able to access all your data instantly and conveniently. One crucial piece of agricultural technology that brings this benefit to farms is smart sensors. These sensors measure characteristics of the environment such as water, light, humidity and temperature and allow farmers to view this data remotely from their computers or smartphones. Having instant access to readouts of vital field data is far more efficient than the traditional farming method of taking multiple manual readings from various points around the farm. Thanks to smart sensors, farmers can now monitor their crops in real time and make informed, timely decisions without stepping foot in the field.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, farm labor hours have declined more than 80% from 1948 to 2017. This scarcity in farm labor is mainly due to aging populations and increased urban migration, and a labor shortage means it's up to technology to fill the gap. Automation is critical for many farms to keep up with demand nowadays, and one emerging technology bringing automation to the farm is self-driving tractors. You've probably heard of self-driving cars, and autonomous tractors function in a similar way. Autonomous tractors are powered by cameras, radars and processors that work to determine a safe driving path in mere milliseconds. Many of these tractors can produce a drive path based on the exact path in which seeds were

sown or based on actual planted crop rows. Having a tractor ready to run 24/7 without needing to physically sit in the driver's seat is a game-changer, especially when farmers find themselves short-handed.

Our final piece of smart agriculture tech has the potential to be a sort of Swiss Army knife for any farmer's toolbelt — agricultural drones. Unlike the typical drones you might be familiar with, these advanced agricultural drones are capable of far more than providing a bird's eye view. In addition to aerial surveillance, these drones can plant and spray crops with precision, collect thermal and multispectral imagery to monitor crop health in real time and assist with crop counting and yield prediction, ensuring optimal harvests. Drones also offer numerous advantages over traditional ground equipment. For example, drones can operate immediately after it rains, whereas ground equipment might need to wait almost a week to avoid damaging the fields and crops. Even without rain, the wheels of ground equipment can damage or destroy crops, while drones can perform their tasks without physically touching the plants. Furthermore, the efficiency and speed of drones can cover large areas quickly, making them ideal for monitoring extensive farmland.

As we look to the future of agriculture, the integration of smart technology can offer a much-needed reprieve for our hardworking farmers. From the invaluable data provided by smart sensors to the tireless efficiency of autonomous tractors and the versatility of agricultural drones, these innovations are transforming the landscape of modern farming. Smart agricultural technology will prove essential in enhancing productivity and keeping up with growing worldwide demand. The world of agriculture looks bright, and the fields of the future are smarter, more efficient and poised to feed the world like never before.



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Federal tax credits, incentives and rebates for efficiency upgrades

Q. How do I use federal tax credits and rebates to upgrade my home?

A. Tax credits and rebates can help bridge the affordability gap to higher efficiency equipment for your home, allowing you to complete energy efficiency upgrades that can lower your energy use and save you money in years to come.

First, knowing the difference between a tax credit and rebate is important. A rebate is a payment for purchasing or installing a qualified product or home improvement.

Depending on how the rebate program is set up, it could be provided at the time of purchase or applied for and received after installation. Check with your electric cooperative to see if it offers rebates.

Typically, the rebate is applied as a credit on your electric bill. In some cases, the rebate is provided as a cash payment to those who complete eligible projects.

A tax credit is a dollar-for-dollar amount that taxpayers can report on their tax documents to reduce the amount of taxes owed. You apply for a tax credit when you file your tax documents, so it typically takes longer to reap the benefits than with a rebate.

According to Energy Star, homeowners can qualify for up to \$3,200 annually in federal tax credits for energy efficiency upgrades. Federal tax credits are available for heating and cooling system upgrades, including heat

pumps, furnaces, central air conditioners, boilers and geothermal heat pumps. Tax credits for Energy Star-rated heat pump water heaters cover 30% of the project cost, up to \$2,000. You can also improve your home's envelope — the portion of the home that separates the inside from the outside — with tax credits for insulation, windows and skylights.

If an energy efficiency upgrade requires improving the electrical panel in your home, there's a tax credit for that, too. You can receive 30% of the cost of the panel upgrade, up to \$600.

These federal tax credits are available through 2032. You must own the home you're upgrading, and it must be your primary residence. Federal tax credits only apply to existing homes in the United States, not new construction.

The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 expanded available funding for many home upgrades. The act allocated \$8.8 million for home rebate programs to be implemented at the state level, and this funding is offered in two different programs. The HOMES program allows up to \$8,000 per home for standard-income households.

Higher rebates are available for low- to moderate-income households. The HEAR program offers rebates of up to \$14,000 per home for qualified, efficient electric equipment for low- to moderate-income households.

These programs are designed to bolster existing programs and should be available in late 2024 or early



You can improve your home's envelope with tax credits for insulation. Photo credit: Mark Gilliland, Pioneer Utility Resources



Tax credits for Energy Star heat pump water heaters cover 30% of the project cost, up to \$2,000. Photo credit: Bonneville Power Administration

2025. Check with your electric cooperative or state office to find out if they are being offered in your state.

Additional energy efficiency rebates might also be available. More than half of U.S. states require energy efficiency programs for residents, according to the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy. These programs can help people save money on their electric bills and help states meet climate goals, reduce system costs and improve the electric grid.

I have had the privilege of working in energy efficiency rebate programs for many years and have seen the benefits of these programs firsthand. Tax credit and rebate programs can make upgrades more affordable — helping people save money and improve the overall comfort of their homes. ■

Miranda Boutelle is vice president of operations and customer engagement at Efficiency Services Group in Oregon, a cooperatively owned energy efficiency company. She also writes on energy efficiency topics for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the national trade association representing more than 900 local electric cooperatives.





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September 2024

27

THE COOLEST THING made in TENNESSEE

All about the first-ever competition highlighting manufacturing in some of our electric cooperative areas

Celebrating the best of or coolest things in Tennessee is what *The Tennessee Magazine* sets out to accomplish, and now a new contest is doing something similar for the manufacturing industry. The Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry, which also serves as the

Tennessee Manufacturers Association, hosted the first ever Coolest Thing Made in Tennessee competition this summer.

“This was a really huge opportunity to highlight some of the tremendous and innovative products that are manufactured here in our state,” said Bradley Jackson, the president and CEO of the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The purpose of the first competition was to bring attention not only to the state’s vibrant manufacturing industry, which employed 353,000 people and had over \$62 billion in total economic output in 2021, but also the outstanding career possibilities available.

“I think a lot of people may not be aware of the great opportunities that manufacturing can offer them with a high-wage, high-skill job,” Jackson said. “This career allows



Hitman Smoked Products, Clifton

Story by Amber Weaver

Tennesseans to contribute to making these awesome products that people recognize around the world.”

The competition initiated in the state of Wisconsin a few years ago, and the chamber felt that Tennessee manufacturers deserved the same recognition and

plans to continue doing so in 2025. Some 150 products were submitted by manufacturers, and then those were narrowed down by vote to the top 16, top eight, final four and then the ultimate winner. Five electric cooperatives are home to six products that found a spot in the top 16, including the winner of the competition.

Tennessee Valley Authority

Polysilicon made by Wacker Chemical Corporation in Charleston was one of the 16 coolest things made in Tennessee. It is a key raw material for manufacturing solar cells. The company is found in Volunteer Energy Cooperative’s area, but the Tennessee Valley Authority provides service directly to that manufacturer.

“We’re extremely proud of the important work that

Whisper Aero, Crossville



Polysilicon by Wacker Chemical Corporation, Charleston

Wacker Polysilicon is performing in Bradley County," said Bert Robinson, TVA east region executive. "Wacker's leading-edge innovation in the development of materials key to harnessing solar power complements TVA's efforts to produce increasingly cleaner energy by expanding renewables within our energy mix. Wacker is a wonderful partner, and it's appropriate to see their products lauded by the Tennessee Manufacturers Association."

Duck River Electric Membership Corporation

Jack Daniel's Tennessee Whiskey also found a spot on the top 16 list. Jack Daniel's Old No.7 is distilled and bottled in Lynchburg and served by DREMC.

"Not only is the distillery one of the most visited tourist attractions in this area, but it has brought worldwide recognition to

Lynchburg. So, we think it's just natural and pretty cool that the distillery is being recognized," said Anthony Kimbrough, DREMC board chairman. "The entire Duck River team, especially longtime board director Buford

Jennings of Lynchburg, is pleased to provide electric service to Jack Daniel Distillery and to celebrate them for this distinction."



Worm Gear Clamp by Ideal Tridon, Smyrna

Distillery and to celebrate them for this distinction."

Tennessee Valley Electric Cooperative

Tennessee Valley Electric Cooperative is home to another cool thing made in the state. Gourmet flavored bacons, including coffee cocoa bacon and dill pickle bacon, are made at Hitman Smoked Products in Clifton.

"We are proud of their success and the recognition they have received through this award," said Gerald L. Taylor Jr., TVEC general manager. "We look forward to continuing to serve them as they continue to grow."

Volunteer Energy Cooperative

Volunteer Energy Cooperative does provide electricity for manufacturing a product on the cool list. The Whisper Drive Enabled Leaf Blower made



Jack Daniel's Tennessee Whiskey, Lynchburg

by Whisper Aero in Crossville is quieter, has more airflow and uses less energy than competitors.

"We are proud to serve and support innovative companies like Whisper Aero. Their achievements with the Whisper Drive Enabled Leaf Blower illustrate the progressive spirit that drives our community," said Dion Cooper, VEC president and CEO. "We congratulate them on their groundbreaking work and look forward to continuing our partnership as they lead the way in transforming the industry."

Middle Tennessee Electric

The Nissan Rogue was named the 2024 Coolest Thing Made in Tennessee. It is made in Smyrna, the plant served by Middle Tennessee Electric, and Duck River Electric Membership Corporation also serves Nissan's plant in Decherd where Rogue engines are produced.

Smyrna is also home to top 16 product Worm Gear Clamp by Ideal Tridon, which is also served by MTE. This helical threaded screw, or worm gear, prevents hose connections from loosening or leaking.

"Middle Tennessee is home to incredible businesses of all sizes like Nissan and Ideal Tridon," said Todd Palmer, MTE key accounts coordinator. "We commend them for these accomplishments and are proud to serve as their electric cooperative."



Nissan Rogue, Smyrna

Archibald Roane The Tennessee governor who got little respect

Since he was the second governor of Tennessee and since there's a county named for him, one might assume that Archibald Roane was well respected in his time. However, that's not the case. In fact, Archibald Roane's political enemies might as well have erased the man from the history books.

It wasn't as if he didn't have military credentials. A Pennsylvania native, Roane was a member of the 9th Battalion of militia that crossed the Delaware River with George Washington in 1776. He was also present at the surrender of Cornwallis in 1781.

After the war, Roane got a legal education and migrated to Tennessee. In 1790, William Blount — governor of the Southwest Territory — appointed Roane to be attorney general for the Washington District (present-day East Tennessee).

Six years later, Roane represented Jefferson County at Tennessee's first Constitutional Convention. We don't know much about what he said at that convention, but we can see Roane's signature on the Tennessee Constitution of 1796.

Tennessee's first legislature chose Roane to be one of three judges on the state's first Superior Court of Law and Equity — the closest thing Tennessee had to a Supreme Court back then.

John Sevier was Tennessee's first governor. A man who had led his countrymen on countless military engagements against the American Indians, Sevier was formidable and powerful, and he was re-elected in 1797 and 1799.

In September 1801, Roane was elected to be Tennessee's second governor in an election in which he was virtually unopposed. We can safely conclude that he had the endorsement of John Sevier, the state's extremely popular first governor.



State Sen. Ken Yager is a fan of Archibald Roane — in part because Yager hails from Roane County. The state's official portrait of Gov. Roane hangs in the senator's legislative office in Nashville. (Tennessee History for Kids photo)

As Tennessee's chief executive, Roane tried to reform the Tennessee militia. He encouraged the federal government to create a road from Nashville to Mississippi — then known as the Chickasaw Trace and now known as the Natchez Trace. He also tried to deal with ongoing disputes with Kentucky and Virginia over the location of Tennessee's border.

But none of those things mattered as much as a decision Roane made in 1803.

In February of that year, the highest-ranking officers of the state militia gathered to elect their major-general. As fate would have it, the vote ended in a 17 to 17 tie between John Sevier and Andrew Jackson. The Tennessee Constitution stipulated that the governor cast the deciding vote.

Roane would have been better off not coming to work that day. But he did and cast his decisive vote for Jackson. It later came out that Jackson presented Roane with evidence that Sevier had been complicit in the awarding of land grants to himself and members of his family. (The awarding of land grants was rife with corruption; there were often accusations of this sort being bandied about.)

Whether or not this was significant in Roane's decision will never be known. But Sevier — who was 22 years older than Jackson — denied all wrongdoing and never forgave Roane.

When Roane's term ended in 1803, Sevier ran against him and won — 6,780 to 4,923 votes. Roane ran against Sevier again in 1805 but lost again.

Roane went back to being a judge, then a state senator from Knox County and in 1812 was reappointed to the highest court in Tennessee. He was also a trustee of Blount College, Greeneville College and Washington College. But Roane was hounded by Sevier and Sevier's allies for the rest of his life. "I have known for some time that I had inveterate enemies who would stoop to anything to injure my reputation," Roane wrote in the Dec. 9, 1811, *Knoxville Gazette*.

Also keep in mind that the "shift of power" from John Sevier to Andrew Jackson was the most personal event in the greater shift of power from present-day East Tennessee to Middle Tennessee. It occurred for logical reasons: the superior navigability of the Cumberland River over the Tennessee River and the fact that the population of Middle Tennessee was growing much faster than that of East Tennessee. But people in East Tennessee didn't see it that way. Some blamed Knoxville's declining fortunes on Roane and saw him as a traitor.

Archibald Roane died in January 1819 — by which time his choice of Andrew Jackson as a military leader had been proven to be a wise one at the battles of Horseshoe Bend and New Orleans. However, this still didn't restore Roane's reputation. Roane's short obituary in the *Knoxville Gazette* didn't even mention that he had once

been governor of Tennessee. "His character as a private citizen was correct, blameless and exemplary," said the article — implying that his "character" as governor was not. Meanwhile, his Nashville Whig obituary said that Roane "was always actuated by the purest motives," a sentence that could be interpreted many ways.

The downplaying of Roane's achievements continued to his next of kin. In 1822, when Roane's daughter, Anne, married, the *Knoxville Intelligencer* said she was the child of "Archibald Roane, Esq." but didn't point out that the man had been governor. When Roane's widow, Ann, died in 1831, the Whig said she was the widow of "the late Judge Roane," not mentioning that he had been governor. When his eldest son, James, died of cholera in 1833, there was no mention of his father.

If you are looking for proof that Roane was disparaged, consider this: For nearly 100 years after his death, the man had no tombstone! Gov. Roane was buried with only a small brick wall to mark the spot in the Knox County community then known as Concord.

Talk of a tombstone for Roane began around 1901 when a Knox County doctor named Dr. R.M. Tillery (specialist in ear, eye, nose and throat — according to his advertisements) began publicly campaigning for one. However, it wasn't until World War I that the Tennessee General Assembly authorized \$500 for the purpose.

The large tombstone at Roane's grave was unveiled at a ceremony on June 26, 1918. At the unveiling, Judge Edward T. Sanford gave a long, eloquent speech, which was run in its entirety in the *Knoxville Sentinel*. So it was then — 99 years after his death — that someone finally paid tribute to Tennessee's second governor. ■





The Original ‘Tennessee Titan’

Big Cypress Tree State Park once home to national champion bald cypress

Story by Trish Milburn • Photographs courtesy of Tennessee State Parks

Though Big Cypress Tree State Park’s namesake was destroyed by a lightning strike and subsequent fire nearly 50 years ago, the park it inspired still tells the tale of what was once deemed the largest and oldest tree east of the Rocky Mountains.

The bald cypress sprang to life in the Obion River bottomlands five centuries before Columbus set sail from Spain headed to Asia for spices and silks and instead bumped into North America. Over the subsequent years, it grew into a massive tree — 39 feet, 8 inches in circumference and around 140 feet tall. Its size got the cypress crowned as the national champion bald

cypress in 1950, a title it held until its demise 26 years later.

Four years into the tree’s reign, it was dubbed the “Tennessee Titan” in an article featured in American Forests magazine — an apt moniker considering its size. It was reportedly hollow at the bottom, allowing four to five people to stand inside its trunk.

A champion’s legacy

Though the giant bald cypress is gone now, the park land that encompasses where it once stood is considered a lesser-known gem among Tennessee’s state parks.

“The park is a gateway to more than 8,000 acres of



public wetlands," says Michael Beasley, who has been park manager at Big Cypress Tree State Park since fall 2019. "It's a good snapshot of the Middle Fork of the Obion River."

In fact, the area of the park where the champion bald cypress once stood isn't very accessible unless you have a mud boat.

If you're looking for a state park with lots of amenities such as golf courses, RV campgrounds and restaurants, Big Cypress Tree does not fit that particular bill. But if you have a love of nature and creatures big and small, then you'll want to check out this slice of Weakley County. It's only a day-use park, but those days can be filled with spotting and identifying a wide array of birds, insects, amphibians, pollinators, plants and trees. In fact, several species of trees are identified for you, allowing visitors of all ages to learn the differences between a sassafras and a persimmon as well as several other species such as yellow poplar, dogwood and, of course, bald cypress.

While visits to state parks are fair-weather affairs for a lot of people, the colder months are actually a really good time to visit Big Cypress Tree, particularly if you enjoy seeing and photographing waterfowl.

"Depending on the weather, November through February are the top times to see sandhill cranes and thousands of geese here," Beasley says.

Dedicated to the mission

For a good amount of his time at Big Cypress Tree, Beasley was the park's only employee. Even so, he set right to work cleaning up the park and took the first steps toward his vision for this public land. His time at other parks such as Reelfoot Lake, Meeman-Shelby Forest and Mousetail Landing informed his decisions. One of those decisions was to take out a ball field and begin to turn it into a natural area that will benefit pollinators while also providing even more bird-watching opportunities for visitors, especially beginning birders.

Beasley has since been joined by a ranger at the park, but it's still a small staff doing their best to protect this natural resource and share it with visitors. Despite the load already on their plates just running the park, Beasley says they are working with schools and homeschool groups on an outdoor classroom. He also hopes to eventually host a spring festival at the park.



Left, pollinators like butterflies find a haven in Big Cypress Tree State Park. Below, a garden gives visitors a more manicured look at the plant species of the park.

And in keeping with the mission to preserve the natural focus of the park, there's also a 17-bed native plant garden in the works.

What to do

In addition to plentiful opportunities for bird-watching and tree and plant identification, visitors can enjoy some easy walks along a paved path or the boardwalk that leads to the bottomland forest that is flooded during certain times of the year.

Picnicking is popular in the park. If you have a larger group, the pavilion can accommodate up to 40 people and can be reserved online up to a year in advance.

The state park covers about 330 acres, but its location next to the Obion River Wildlife Management Area in Weakley, Obion and Gibson counties provides a lot of space for waterfowl and game management. The park and wildlife management area's mixture of hardwood bottomland, wetlands and crop fields provides homes to a wide variety of waterfowl, songbirds, turkeys, white-tailed deer, cypress firefly and more, making it well worth the drive for a day of exploring. ■



Big Cypress Tree State Park

Big Cypress Tree State Park is located at 295 Big Cypress Road outside of Greenfield. You can find additional information at the park's website at tnstateparks.com/parks/big-cypress-tree or by calling the park office at 731-235-2700. Note that the park does not have internet access, and phone service can be iffy at times.



SEPTEMBER

squeeze

Apple
cider rules
the roost
with these
autumnal
recipes



Apple Cider Chutney

Recipes by Tammy Algood

Food styling by Cynthia Kent

Photographs by Robin Conover

September is the month we squeeze every last ray of sunshine from summer while at the very same time trying to squeeze in a few extra weeks of autumn “feels” before fall even starts. A tight squeeze ... but the *main* squeeze of September is apples! Visit a local orchard to pick up cider as a summertime activity, then try some of these recipes for your first taste of fall. Squeeze September for all it’s worth!

Apple Cider Cupcakes

Yield: 18 cupcakes

3 cups apple cider
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup vegetable shortening
 $1\frac{3}{4}$ cups sugar
2 eggs
2 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
Pinch of salt
Apple Cider Cream Cheese Frosting
(See below)

In a large saucepan, bring the cider to a gentle boil and reduce by half, around 15 minutes. Set aside to cool.

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. Grease and flour a muffin pan or fill with paper liners.

In the bowl of an electric mixer, combine the shortening and sugar until light and fluffy, about 2 minutes. Add the eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition.

In a separate bowl, combine the flour, baking soda, cinnamon and salt. Add to the shortening mixture alternately with the reduced cider, beginning and ending with the dry ingredients.

Divide the batter evenly among the cups and bake 25 minutes or until a tester inserted in the center comes out



Hard Cider Shandy

clean. Transfer to a wire rack to cool completely, then frost with Apple Cider Cream Cheese Frosting.

Apple Cider Cream Cheese Frosting

Yield: About 2 cups

2 cups apple cider
1 (8-ounce) package cream cheese, softened
 $\frac{2}{3}$ cup confectioners' sugar

In a small saucepan, bring the cider to a gentle boil and reduce to $\frac{1}{4}$ cup, around 15 minutes. Cool completely. Mix with the cream cheese and sugar until the desired spreading consistency is obtained. Spread on cooled pastries.

Hard Cider Shandy — *A shandy is a British beer cocktail popular in most pubs.*

Yield: 2 servings

12 ounces sweet or hard cider
12 ounces beer
2 lime wedges (half a lime)

Place the cider and beer in a pitcher and stir to combine. Pour into chilled glasses and serve each with a lime wedge. Enjoy immediately.

Crowd-Pleasing Mulled Cider

Yield: 8 servings

$\frac{1}{2}$ gallon sweet or hard cider, room temperature
6 cinnamon sticks
6 whole cloves
4 whole allspice berries
2 tablespoons honey or sorghum syrup
1 orange, zested in strips and juiced
Pinch of ground nutmeg

Place the cider, cinnamon sticks, cloves, allspice, honey or sorghum, orange zest, orange juice and nutmeg in a slow cooker. Stir, cover and turn to low heat for 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours or longer. Serve in warm mugs.

Apple Cider Chutney — *Perfect when dolloped over any grilled meat, or use it as a nontraditional shrimp cocktail sauce.*

Yield: 4 cups

2 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds tart apples, peeled and coarsely chopped
2 large garlic cloves, peeled and minced
1 cup apple cider
6 tablespoons white wine vinegar
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup firmly packed light brown sugar
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup golden raisins
 $\frac{1}{3}$ cup dried cherries
 $\frac{1}{3}$ cup chopped dates
 $\frac{1}{3}$ cup diced sweet onions
1 tablespoon chopped fresh sage, optional

Place the apples, garlic, cider, vinegar, sugar, raisins, cherries, dates and onions in a large saucepan over medium heat. Bring to a boil, then reduce the heat to simmer. Cook for 50-55 minutes or until thick. Stir in the sage, if using, and simmer 5 minutes longer.

Remove from the heat and spoon into clean, warm canning jars. After covering with the lid and ring, place on a cooling rack and allow to cool to room temperature. Transfer to the

refrigerator. Serve warm or at room temperature.

Note: If you want to kick up the heat just a bit, add a heaping teaspoon of chopped, canned jalapeño peppers to the mixture as it cooks.

Fall Cider Sauce — Spoon over ice cream, pound cake or baked apples.

Yield: 2 cups

1½ cups apple cider

2 teaspoons cornstarch

½ cup maple syrup

¼ cup firmly packed light brown sugar

¼ cup lemon juice

Place the cider in a medium saucepan and stir in the cornstarch until smooth. Place over medium-high heat and add the maple syrup, brown sugar and lemon juice. Bring to a boil. Boil 1 minute, then remove from the heat. Allow to cool slightly before using warm or transfer to a covered container and refrigerate until ready to use.

Brown Sugar Cider Pound Cake — Perfect when served with Fall Cider Sauce!

Yield: 12 servings

1½ cups unsalted butter, softened

1 (16-ounce) package light brown sugar
1 cup granulated sugar
5 eggs
¾ cup milk
¼ cup apple cider
2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
3 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
¼ teaspoon salt
Fall Cider Sauce

Preheat the oven to 325 degrees. Grease and flour a Bundt pan and set aside.

Place the butter in the bowl of an electric mixer. Beat at medium speed until creamy, around 2 minutes. Gradually add the brown and granulated sugars and beat 5 minutes after both have been added to the mixture.

Meanwhile, in a 2-cup glass measuring cup with a spout, combine the milk, cider and extract. Set aside. In a separate bowl, stir together the flour, baking powder and salt. Set aside.

Add the eggs one at a time to the butter mixture, beating just until the yolks disappear. Decrease the mixer speed to low. Add the flour mixture

alternately with the milk mixture to the batter. Begin and end with the flour mixture.

Transfer the batter to the prepared pan and bake 1 hour and 20 minutes or until a tester inserted in the center comes out clean. Cool in the pan on a wire rack for 15 minutes. Remove from the pan and cool completely on a wire rack. Serve with generous drizzles of Fall Cider Sauce.

Tips and tricks

Cider is simply fresh squeezed fruit juice.

Fresh cider is sometimes referred to as sweet or soft cider and contains no alcohol.

Hard cider is allowed to ferment in order to make it alcoholic and naturally carbonate it so the end result tastes sparkling.

Fresh and hard ciders can be used interchangeably in recipes.

Pulp from apple cider is used to make cider vinegar and is an excellent substitute for any recipe calling for rice vinegar.



Email your cooking questions to Tammy Algood: talgood@tnelectric.org.

Allison writes: “My mother always added a splash of liquid to eggs before scrambling. Is that necessary?”

Allison, mother knows best! Adding water or milk gives scrambled eggs a fluffy, more tender outcome. As a general rule, I use a tablespoon of liquid for every two eggs.

Kate asks: “I thought I was being smart and dressed a bowl of salad greens ahead of time. When I got ready to serve it, I had a soggy mess on my hands. What did I do wrong?”

Kate, the vinegar in salad dressings causes this, so the only thing you did wrong was to dress it early. Next time, prepare the salad, but only dress it just before serving.

*Tammy Algood develops recipes for **The Tennessee Magazine** that feature farm-fresh Tennessee food. Those fresh, local ingredients will always add cleaner, more flavorful foods to your table. We recommend visiting local farms and farmers markets to find the freshest seasonal produce.*

MARKETPLACE

Products and services from our neighbors in Tennessee and across the country

We're searching for Tennessee's most talented and gifted poets. Enter our next Poet's Playground contest!

Subject: Poems do not have to include the word "Tennessee" explicitly, but their themes should celebrate our state and what makes it beautiful — whether highlighting something unique to Tennessee, memories of the state or the beautiful nature it has to offer.

Age categories: The competition has six age divisions — 8 and younger, 9-13, 14-18, 19-22, 23-64 and 65 and older. Each group will have first-, second- and third-place winners. First place wins \$50 and will be printed in the magazine, second place wins \$30 and third place wins \$20. Poems capturing first-, second- and third-place honors will be published online at tnmagazine.org.

What to enter: A poem of *100 words or fewer, including articles*, pertaining to the theme. One entry per person, and please give your entry a title.

Deadline: Entry must be submitted online or postmarked by Tuesday, Oct. 1. First-place poems will be published in the December issue.

Please note: By entering, you give *The Tennessee Magazine* permission to publish your work via print, online and social media.

Please enter online at tnmagazine.org **or mail handwritten entries to:** Poetry Contest, *The Tennessee Magazine*, P.O. Box 100912, Nashville, TN 37224. Make sure to print your poem legibly, and be sure to keep a copy of your poem as submissions received via mail will not be returned.

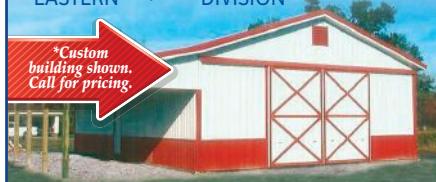
All entries must include the following information, or they will be disqualified: your name, age, mailing address, phone number, email address and the name of your local electric cooperative.

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25 YEAR GUARANTEE

TENNESSEE EVENTS

Festivals, celebrations and other happenings around the state

Sept. 14 • Glow with the Flow Show: Nighttime Kayaking Adventure, Commodore Hotel and Music Cafe, Linden. 931-589-3224 or commodorehotellinden.com

Immerse yourself in a one-of-a-kind guided night kayak adventure on Linden's Buffalo River. Book your room at the Commodore Hotel and Music Cafe and select nighttime kayaking for a magical experience. Gather at dusk on the private riverfront property for safety instructions before embarking on this unforgettable journey. Keep an eye out for native wildlife like bald eagles, turtles and owls. Available Saturdays, with group tours possibly arranged on other nights. Regenerate your soul in the serene waters of the Buffalo River.



Photograph courtesy of the Commodore Hotel and Music Cafe

West Tennessee

Sept. 6-8 • McNairy County Fried Pie Festival, McNairy County Ag Event Center, Selmer. 731-439-0866 or friedpiefestival.com

Sept. 7 • Annual Road Sale, Dry Hill Roads East – West, Ripley. 731-635-0281

Sept. 7 • Go Cat Go Rock 'N' Roll Classic Car Show, Living Hope Church, Piperton. 901-262-1962 or cfewell@bellsouth.net

Sept. 13 • Opening Night, The University of Memphis Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music. memphis.edu/music

Sept. 14 • 25th Annual Cotton Festival, Somerville Square. 901-465-8690 or fayettecountychamber.com

Sept. 14 • Hunter D. Stafford Memorial Wildlife Supper, Holly Grove Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Brighton. 901-476-8379 or hollygrovechurch.com

Sept. 24 • Taste of Lauderdale County, Ripley First Baptist Church Family Life Center. 731-635-9551 or lauderdale.tennessee.edu

Sept. 26-29 • 29th Annual Covington-Tipton County Heritage Festival, downtown Covington. 901-476-9727 or covington-tilptoncochamber.com

Sept. 28 • Tour de Reelfoot, Lake County High School, Tiptonville. bikereg.com/tour-de-reelfoot

Oct. 6-12 • The 57th Davy Crockett Days Festival, Rutherford. davycrockettdays@outlook.com

Middle Tennessee

Sept. 6-7 • Eagleville Pioneer Power Show, Tennessee Valley Pioneer Power Association, Eagleville. 615-556-2344 or tvppa.org

Sept. 6-7 • 68th Annual Mid-Tenn Region Fall Car Show and Swap Meet, Red Boiling Springs. 629-203-1696 or 98towncarmerc@gmail.com

Sept. 6-15 • The Nashville Fair, The Fairgrounds Nashville. 615-313-3247 or nashfair.fun

Sept. 7 • Middle Tennessee Fried Pickle Festival, Lane Agri-Park Community Center, Murfreesboro. 931-259-3413 or centerhillevents.com

Sept. 7 • Fall Craft Fair, Oaklands Mansion, Murfreesboro. 615-893-0022 or oaklands mansion.org

Sept. 7 • Hawthorn Hill Tours, Wynnewood State Historic Site, Castalian Springs. 615-452-7070 or historiccastaliansprings.org

Sept. 14 • 13th Semi-Annual Fall Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show, Winchester City Park. 931-308-3802

Sept. 14 • Glow with the Flow Show: Nighttime Kayaking Adventure, Commodore Hotel and Music Cafe, Linden. 931-589-3224 or commodorehotellinden.com

Sept. 21 • Harvest Boutique Craft and Vendor Event, Coffee County Conference Center, Manchester. 931-273-4158 or kellyfelice74@gmail.com

Sept. 21-22 • Autumn Blaze Arts Festival, Waverly United Methodist Church. 931-296-5393 or humphreyscountyarts council@gmail.com

Sept. 21-22 • Sumner County Fall Fest, Turning Point at Sonrise, Westmoreland. 615-644-8876 or turningpointsonrise.org

Sept. 28 • Fall Festival, Eagleville. 615-274-2922 or eaglevilletn.gov

Sept. 28-29 • 41st Annual WilCo Pow Wow (formerly Mt. Juliet Pow Wow), Wilson County Fairgrounds, Lebanon. 615-512-0952 or wilcopowwow.com

East Tennessee

Sept. 3-26 • East Tennessee Arts Center Juried Show, McMinn County Living Heritage Museum, Athens. livingheritagemuseum.org

Sept. 6-8 • Roan Mountain Fall Naturalists Rally, Roan Mountain State Park Conference Center. friendsofroan@gmail.com or friendsofroanmtn.org

Sept. 19-21 • Trash and Treasure Fall Sale, McMinn County Living Heritage Museum, Athens. livingheritagemuseum.org

Sept. 19-22 • Fall Event, Statemint Morristown, Talbott. 865-216-6546 or statemintconsignment.com/morristown

Sept. 20-21 • Bird and Barn, Black Fox Farms, Cleveland. 423-458-1614 or projectfree2fly.com

Sept. 20-21 • Nine Mile Annual September Bluegrass Festival, Nine Mile Volunteer Fire Department, Pikeville. 423-448-0709 or 9mibluegrass.org

Sept. 21-22 • Chattanooga Bacon Festival, Camp Jordan, East Ridge. 423-650-1388 or touchtheskyevents.com

Sept. 27-28 • Dandridge Scots-Irish Festival, historic Main Street, Dandridge. info.scotsirishfestival@gmail.com or scotsirishfestival.com

Sept. 28 • Scott County Heritage Festival, Museum of Scott County, Huntsville. 423-701-0168 or scottcountymuseum.com

Sept. 28-29 • Fall Folk Arts Festival, Exchange Place Living History Farm, Kingsport. 423-288-6071 or exchangeplacen.org ■

List your events in *The Tennessee Magazine*

The Tennessee Magazine publishes event listings as space allows, giving preference to events of regional or statewide interest and those that are annual or one-time happenings. The magazine does not publish recurring events such as those held weekly.

The magazine assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of information submitted for publication and advises calling or emailing ahead to confirm dates, locations, times and possible admission fees.

To be included in the calendar, visit our website, tnmagazine.org, and fill out the submission form. You can also email listings to events@tnelectric.org or send them to Tennessee Events, P.O. Box 100912, Nashville, TN 37224.

Please include the name of the event, where it will be held (both town and physical location), a phone number readers can call for more information and an email or website address, if applicable, where readers can learn more.

Information must be received at least two months ahead of the event date, and we accept submissions up to a year in advance.

Due to the great demand for space in each month's magazine, we cannot guarantee publication. Find a complete listing of submissions we've received at tnmagazine.org/events.

Find the Tennessee flag



We have hidden somewhere in this magazine the icon from the Tennessee flag like the one pictured here. It could be larger or smaller than this, and it could be in black and white or any color. If you find it, send us a postcard or email us with the page number where it's located. Include your name, mailing address, phone number, email address and electric cooperative. One entry per person. Three winners will be chosen from a random drawing, and each will receive \$20.

Note that the icon we hide will not be on an actual flag or historical marker, will not appear on pages 20-25 and will not be placed in any ads. This month's flag will not appear on this page (that would just be too easy). Good luck!

Send **postcards only** (no phone calls, please) to: *The Tennessee Magazine*, Find the Flag, P.O. Box 100912, Nashville, TN 37224. Or you can fill out the form at

tnmagazine.org or email flag@tnelectric.org. Entries must be postmarked or received via email by Tuesday, Oct. 1. Winners will be published in the November issue of *The Tennessee Magazine*.

July Flag Spotters

Thanks for the postcards and emails again this month identifying the correct location of the flag, which was found in the water on **page 36**.

Winners are drawn randomly from each month's entries. July's lucky flag spotters are:



Kathleen Graham, Bethel Springs, Pickwick EC
Dolores Morris, Waverly, Meriwether Lewis EC
Karen Killinger, Ocoee, Florida, Mountain EC

Artist's Palette

Assignment for November

Three age categories: 8 and younger, 9 to 13 and 14 to 18 years old. Each group will have first-, second- and third-place winners.

Media: Drawing or painting on **8½-by-11-inch unlined** paper, canvas or board. We encourage the use of color. **Please follow these size guidelines.** Oversized canvas entries are especially difficult to handle and cannot be returned. Framed pieces will not be accepted.

Entry: Send your original art to: *The Tennessee Magazine*, Artist's Palette — **November**, P.O. Box 100912, Nashville, TN 37224. (*Please make sure you include the month on the outside of the envelope!*) Only one entry per artist, please.

Deadline: Art must be postmarked by Tuesday, Oct. 1.

Include: Your name (*legibly, please!*), age, mailing address, phone number, email address and electric cooperative. Leaving anything out will result in disqualification.

Please note: By entering, you give *The Tennessee Magazine* permission to publish your work in print, online and via social media.

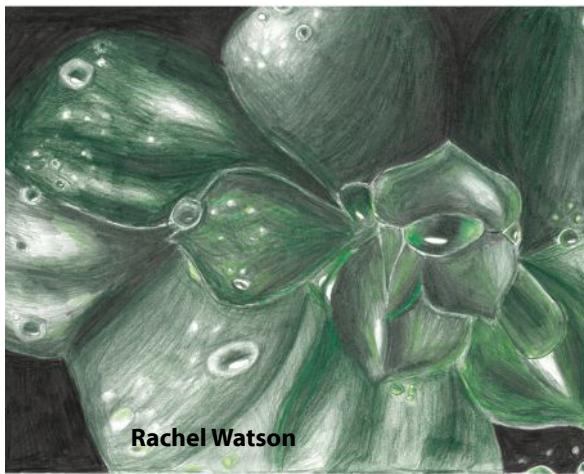
Artwork will not be returned **unless** you include a self-addressed, **stamped** envelope (SASE) with your submission. **Only the U.S. Postal Service** will be used for returns. *For best reproduction results, do not fold artwork.*

Each entry needs its own SASE, please. Siblings must enter separately with their own envelopes. **Attention, teachers:** You may send multiple entries in one envelope along with one SASE with sufficient postage. **Winners** will be published in the November issue of *The Tennessee Magazine*. First place wins \$50, second place wins \$30 and third place wins \$20. Winners are eligible to enter again after three months. Winners will receive their awards, artwork and certificates of placement within six to eight weeks of publication.

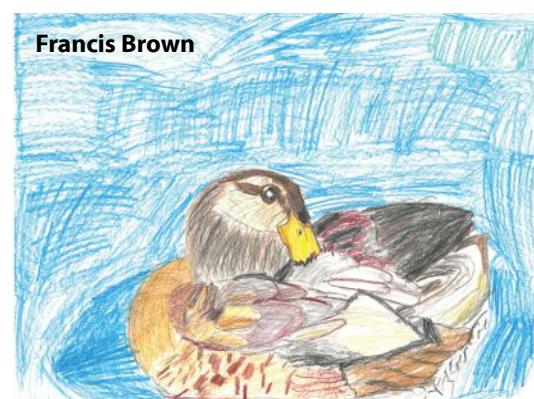
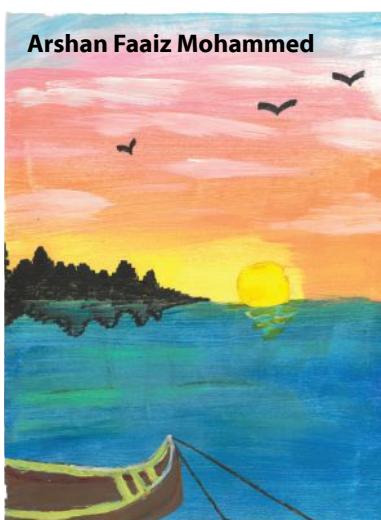
Artist's Palette September Winners



WINNERS, 14-18 AGE GROUP: First place: Aditya Sai Nandina, age 14, Middle Tennessee Electric; Second place: Emily Lehmen, age 17, Southwest Tennessee EMC; Third place: Hannah Collins, Age 16, Middle Tennessee Electric



WINNERS, 9-13 AGE GROUP: First place: Andrew Barlow, age 13, Middle Tennessee Electric; Second place: Rachel Watson, age 12, Middle Tennessee Electric; Third place: Ruby-Kaite Wilbanks, age 13, Pickwick EC

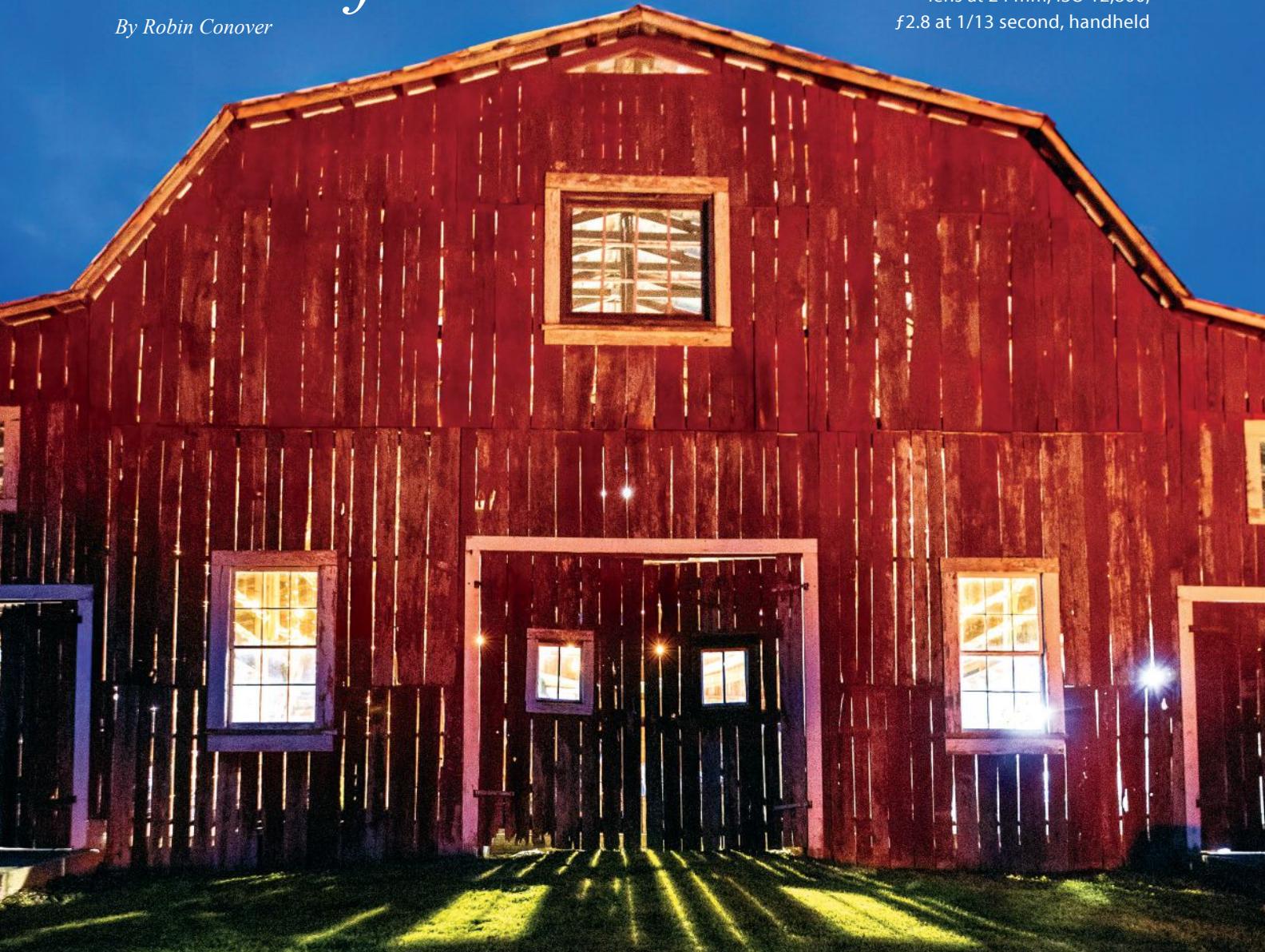


WINNERS, 8 AND YOUNGER AGE GROUP: First place: Arshan Faaiz Mohammed, age 8, Middle Tennessee Electric; Second place: Kaelynn Lewis, age 8, Cumberland EMC; Third place: Francis Brown age 8, Southwest Tennessee EMC

Point of View

By Robin Conover

"Big Red Barn" by Robin Conover,
Canon EOS 5D Mark IV, 24-70mm, f2.8 L USM
lens at 24 mm, ISO 12,800,
f2.8 at 1/13 second, handheld



I love images such as this one that sneak up on you. I recently spent some time in Beersheba Springs, presenting at the Trails and Trilliums conference. On the closing evening of the conference, we were treated to dinner and bluegrass music at the Big Red Barn. We gathered just before sunset at the rustic event center.

Before entering, as twilight set in and the music began, I stepped back out and walked behind the barn to a bonfire that had just been ignited. Had I not gone out to the bonfire, I would have never seen the beautiful light streaming through the slats of red siding, creating an entirely different look and feel than I had captured just an hour before.

I remember just staring at the scene for a few minutes, trying to decide how to capture the moment. The red, green and blue palette perfectly represents the RGB color model upon which conventional photography is based. I thought the noise in the image, created from using a high ISO, would add a vintage look of the grain as seen in higher speed films I used "back in the day." And, last but not least, the streaming light brought life and an entirely new look and spirit to the barn.

I used both my iPhone and DSLR to capture the scene. My DSLR rendered more detail, but the iPhone wasn't far behind.

The happenstance of this image proves the old photography saying — *f8 and be there.* ■



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