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“Check your privilege.”

You hear and read that phrase more and more these days, usually in reference to a white person being unaware of issues that affect people of color. Often, the response from the white person to the remark is defensive, something along the lines of “I’m not privileged. I’ve had to work for everything I’ve got.” While that may be true, that’s not the issue.

Checking your privilege isn’t about being forced to acknowledge you’ve had an easy life. It’s about recognizing that there are certain struggles that you won’t ever encounter, problems and challenges that are specific to certain groups.

If you’re white, you’re “privileged” in countless ways, many of which you’ve probably never thought about. You (and me) are the “norm,” the baseline. We don’t have that little frisson of tension when entering certain stores or restaurants or when being pulled over by a cop or applying for a job. We’ll seldom if ever be discriminated against for our skin tone. Acknowledging that reality won’t hurt us. It makes us better humans.

In fact, there are many types of privilege, including gender, economic status, appearance, celebrity/notoriety, age, and health, to name a few.

If you’re male, for example, you’re privileged in ways you’ve likely not considered, but most women could enumerate them for you: your salary, your confidence that you’ll be listened to when you speak assertively and not be considered “pushy,” the knowledge that you won’t be critiqued for your “outfit,” and that you won’t be sexually harassed or raped.

If you’re straight and not aware of your privilege as measured against those in the LGBTQ community, you need to open your mind. Imagine growing up gay in a small town and keeping it a secret — from everyone. Imagine not being able to hold hands with your loved one. Imagine not being able to get married. Imagine being in fear because of who you love or how you look. You have to imagine it — acknowledge it — because you’ll never live it.

Wealth is another massive kind of privilege: the privilege of never worrying about your lights being cut off or about having to eat the cheapest food available or paying the rent or getting your kids to school or getting your car fixed. You can travel, buy what you want, when you want it — live in ways poor folks can only dream about. No matter how hard you worked to gain your wealth, it’s still privilege.

Appearance can also be a kind of privilege. Observe the difference in how attractive, well-dressed men are treated when entering a business or restaurant, as opposed to how an unattractive, poorly dressed person is treated.

Celebrity also has its privileges: VIP seating, no waiting in lines, the best service possible. And age ... If you’re too old, people overlook you and relegate you to insignificance. If you’re too young, people don’t take you seriously. Even health is a privilege, and if you ever lose it, you’ll quickly realize that.

So, would you rather be an attractive, wealthy, black female lawyer or a poor, old white man who works wiping down cars at Mr. Pride? Both have privilege of one kind or another; both are disadvantaged in some ways.

There are no easy answers, because the concept of privilege itself is complicated. It may help some folks understand if instead of saying, “Check your privilege,” we said “Count your blessings.”

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**Classifieds** - 36

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The New York Times Crossword

ACROSS
1. Barbecue chef’s coals
6. Angry Birds starting in 2010, e.g.
10. Pick up
11. Something on a letter
12. Deeply felt
13. Small state
15. Overseas
20. “Liver”
21. Company with a hook in its logo
22. Literary character, self-described as “very, viscous, plain and silly”
23. Octo-ized art
24. Plane wing part
25. Hills, after a hit in its score
26. All-weather convertible?
27. Inits. after a big hit
28. Plane wing part
29. Plane wing part
30. Alternative to Food Lion or Piggly Wiggly
31. 1990s “caught on tape” series
32. Vagaries
33. “We hate you!”
37. Quote about a phone call
40. A maid of honor
44. Roach of old comedy
45. In the dictionary, say
46. Mitsubishi sports car, for short
47. Some third queen bee
48. Shrinking
51. Sweet coal
52. Something water lacks
53. Tranquil and Shrinking
55. Some thirst quenchers
59. Veil material
60. Widespread
62. It’s what you think
63. Assured
64. “Take That!”
65. Within
66. Banquets
67. Hot pepper
68. Arid, dry
69. Pre-euro currency
70. What a warmbird is a funnel in
76. It might reveal what you’ve lost
77. Up to speed, basically
78. Something to plug a hole
79. One taking head of work
80. Synthetic eye component
81. “Talk to the hand”
82. Give a number?
83. One progeny of the bios
84. Subspecies of a distinct geographical region
85. Features of opera singer’s office waiting room
86. Veil material
87. Widespread
88. Latin American soccer powerhouse: Abbr.
89. It’s what you think
90. Assured
91. “Take That!”
92. Within
93. Banquets
94. Hot pepper
95. Arid, dry
96. Pre-euro currency
97. What a warmbird is a funnel in
98. Ingredient in Firecracker Light
99. Unit in high-speed data transfer
100. Express starting in 2000
102. Fall rapidly, as snow
103. Grocery brand that’s also a girl’s name
104. “Les Maltés” et al.

DOWN
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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

Joel Henry, puzzle editor

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DOG BITES ... NOBODY?
There’s good news out of Mississippi, but it’s married to some more ambiguous, probably not-so-good news for journalism.

"Dog doesn't bite man" is now officially considered news, according to a report in The Commercial Appeal titled "Dogs and people get along well in Mississippi, data shows."

Oh, sure, there’s still a lot of work to be done in the feline and hamster communities, and Mississippi Gov. Phil Bryant recently signed off on Confederate History month to go along with Black History Month and Native American History Month (suggesting that people are still pretty horrible to other people). But puppies!

CONSPIRACY THEORY
Okay, here’s what we know for sure. In 2013 Shelby County District Attorney General Amy Weirich was attacked by the High Point Owl (AKA Murder Owl).

More recently, Frayser Bear has been on the prowl and may be traveling underground, using a series of tunnels constructed by the Barksdale Beaver.

The Midtown Coyote and Zimm the Escape Monkey are both keeping such a low profile it seems like only a matter of time before we find out who really killed Hugh the Memphis Manatee.

MADE IT
Bighearted actor Ron Gordon was laid to rest last week. The veteran stage performer was immortalized on film as a gangster in the early Judd Nelson film Making the Grade.

If there was an Oscar for best performance by a man eating an onion, Gordon, a multiple Ostrander-winner, would have taken home another prize.

Airport, the un420, & the Frayser Bear

The Memphis Airport gets a new look, Weed Day wasn’t, and many saw a bear near here.

THE NEW, NEW AIRPORT PLAN
Officials unveiled a $214 million, four-year plan to modernize Memphis International Airport, an update to an original $114 million plan introduced in 2014.

The new plan carries most of the hallmarks of the original plan, including consolidating most passenger operations to the B concourse. The concourse will get higher ceilings, more natural light, more seating, more moving walkways, a children’s play area, a stage for live music, and more.

The new plan also includes related projects like building a new jet bridge and upgrades to the A and C concourses for more airline operations. These upgrades elevated the project’s price tag. However, no local tax dollars will be used.

FORMER MATA CHIEF PLEADS GUILTY
Ron Garrison, the former CEO at Memphis Area Transit Authority (MATA), pled guilty on an Alford plea last week to charges of prostitution.

He was one of 42 people charged in a three-day sting on human trafficking in Memphis in January. Garrison, 60, was placed on six months diversion for the charge, and if he stays out of trouble, he’ll be cleared of the prostitution offense.

BEAR SEEN IN NORTH MEMPHIS
State wildlife officials investigated a bear sighting in North Memphis last week.

Andy Tweed, a Shelby County wildlife official with the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, said four or five residents in the area said they saw the bear. Though witnesses reported a second sighting of the bear over the weekend, officials never saw nor captured a bear in the area.

Though, Tweed noted that black bear sightings are reported “all the time” around Memphis, usually by hunters and fishers. (Above photo is Tweed with bear darted at Davies Plantation in 2011.)

SILO PROJECT PULLED
The American Commercial Barge Line company pulled its application to erect two, 145-foot-tall storage silos on the bluff of the Mississippi River last week.

Many residents and businesses were concerned the silos would obstruct the view of the Mississippi River.

INVESTIGATORS EYE OAKLAND
Shifty business in Oakland, Tenn., was uncovered recently in an investigation by the Tennessee Comptroller Office.

That investigation found that Oakland mayor Chris Goodman used city property and his city hall office for his private-sector job and was also frequently out of town and unavailable to city employees.

The investigation also found issues with a government contract and an employee’s severance package.

STOPPING THE WRECKING BALL
Concerned citizens are trying to save the William C. Ellis & Sons Iron Works Inc. building, which is set for demolition to make way for the massive One Beale project.

Those citizens, led in part by the preservation group Memphis Heritage, gathered last week to brainstorm methods — like lobbying Memphis City Council members — to possibly stop the demolition.

WEED DAY WAS NOT LIT
Weed Day coughed and didn’t get off at Overton Park this year. April 20 (4/20) has long been the meeting day for dozens around Memphis to meet on the Greensward and smoke marijuana.

This year, however, Weed Day only brought out a handful of police officers and a folding table with information from the Memphis chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws.
SHOP THE LOOK

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salvationarmymemphis.org/adult-rehabilitation-center/

SOUNDING THE CALL

Memphians sound the alarm on drug death epidemic.

By Maya Smith
CITY REPORTER

It provides a space where members can express all feelings. "This project may not stop the epidemic, but it will bring awareness," said Harvey. "It will turn the horror into hope."
Sounding the Call

Memphians sound the alarm on drug death epidemic.

Drug deaths are rising in Tennessee, and Memphians are raising awareness of the trend in any way they can, from benefit concerts and online support groups, to a newly installed phone booth for the bereaved.

In 2015, Tennessee had the most drug overdose deaths in the state's history. That year, 1,451 died, including 188 in Shelby County, according to the Tennessee Department of Health (TDH).

"This is a disease every one of us is vulnerable to, not a moral failing," commissioner of TDH John Dreyzehner said at the time. "Not one of these victims deserved this, and the tragedy of lives lost to overdoses becomes even more painful knowing these deaths can be prevented and are the horrible tip of the overdose iceberg."

Opioids claimed close to 72 percent of those 2015 drug deaths. One of those was Emily Harvey's ex-boyfriend. In response to his death and the rising number of others like it, Harvey decided to install a phone booth, an art installation of sorts. Known as the Phone of the Spirit, the booth was dedicated Saturday in a community garden at St. John's Methodist Church.

The phone is not connected, but the booth is meant to encourage grieving and healing for those who have lost friends and relatives to the growing drug epidemic, Harvey said. "This project may not stop the disease, but it will spread awareness and grant others the hope of recovery," Harvey said. "People can go to the phone booth any time to say the many things left unsaid, without judgment. The Phone of the Spirit is a visible channel where community members can express all feelings."

Bethany Morse, a recovering addict, runs a Facebook page called Memphis' War on Heroin. The group is a closed platform meant to promote education and awareness of the epidemic.

It provides a space where members of the community, whether recovering or active users of the drug, can share motivating topics, conversations, articles, and statistics in an effort to further educate, encourage, uplift, and break the stigma and cycle of heroin addiction.

Morse believes that the epidemic will not be erased until the proper resources and funding are available to addicts. "We can and do recover, and not only do we recover, we go on to help others do the same," Morse said. "We become productive, useful members of society. We can only do that if we are alive and given a chance at treatment."

STOP Doing Heroin, a local activist group, has been working since December of last year, selling buttons and T-shirts, to raise money for addicts in the community who want to receive treatment but lack the means.

The group will hold the first in a series of benefit concerts Friday at the Hi-Tone Cafe. All the benefits from the show go to community members' treatment, like drug counseling and education, clean needles, naloxone kits, and HIV testing.
Shelby County got a look on Tuesday at Franklin businessman Bill Lee, who formally announced his run for the 2018 governor’s race over the weekend and embarked on what he called a “95-county, 95-day RV tour” of the state.

Lee had acknowledged the likelihood of his candidacy when he appeared, along with other gubernatorial prospects, at the Shelby County Republican Party’s Lincoln Day banquet in February. While in Memphis, he met with reporters and pursued a schedule that included a stop at the Memphis Shelby Crime Commission and a visit with Shelby County Schools superintendent Dorsey Hopson, among other local meetings.

“Basically, I’m on a listening tour,” Lee said. His personal bio includes lifetime residence on a cattle farm and management of a company that deals in heating, air conditioning, plumbing, and home improvements. He says he wants to focus on growing jobs and paying attention to overdue rural needs, all while avoiding the expedient of raising taxes.

So far, only Lee and former state director of economic development Randy Boyd, among Republicans, have made official announcements, but other likely GOP gubernatorial candidates are state Senate Majority Leader Mark Norris of Collierville, state House Speaker Beth Harwell of Nashville, and Congresswoman Diane Black of Gallatin.

So far, former Nashville Mayor Karl Dean is the only declared Democratic candidate, though state House Minority Leader Craig Fitzhugh of Ripley is considered a probable entry.

- This week’s Flyer editorial, (p. 10), makes reference to a press conference scheduled for Thursday at the National Civil Rights Museum on behalf of the Lynching Sites Project of Memphis, a nonprofit group whose efforts are coordinated with those of the Equal Justice Initiative, a national organization.

In tandem with the press conference, which relates to the project’s plans to create memorials for victims of lynching (numbering in the neighborhood of 40, according to publicist Howard Robertson), the project has announced a memorial event for one of the victims, Ell Persons, “a 49-year-old black man accused without evidence of murdering Antoinette Rappel, a 16-year-old white girl.” That event, an “interfaith prayer ceremony,” will take place on May 21st at 3 p.m., “near the site of Summer Avenue and the Wolf River,” where the lynching, not a hanging but a burning at the stake, took place exactly 100 years earlier.

Participants will include representatives of white and black churches, the NAACP, and other individuals and institutions. The public is invited, said Robertson.

- The first of six “community forums” scheduled as part of the effort to re-establish an official Shelby County Democratic Party will take place on Saturday at noon at Black Market Strategies at 5146 Stage Road. The host for that event will be state Representative Antonio Parkinson.

A second event, at 6 p.m. on May 3rd, will be held at the Gallery at 1819 Madison, co-hosted by the Shelby County Young Democrats and the College Democrats. There will be a third forum at the Pickering Center in Germantown on Tuesday, May 9th, hosted by the Germantown Democrats, and a final forum will be held at 6 p.m. on May 15th, at Abyssinian Baptist Church, 3890 Millbranch, under the sponsorship of the Democratic Women of Shelby County.

Bill Lee
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Monumental Acts

Sometimes there is an obvious synchronicity at work in human affairs. There certainly seemed to be something like that going on this week in relation to the question of monuments and memorials.

Mayor Mitch Landrieu of New Orleans took decisive action to dismantle and remove three Confederate-related statues from places of prominence in his city and promised to complete the task by removing three more in the immediate future. He made it clear that the time had come to stop glorifying such shrines of national disunion in much the same way that then South Carolina Governor and now UN Ambassador Nikki Haley did when she removed the Confederate flag from her state Capitol building in 2015.

Haley’s action was in response to the horrific murder of nine African-American church members by an addled racist who almost literally had wrapped himself in the Stars and Bars of the Confederacy. Landrieu expressed a similar motivation by referring to the creation of the Confederacy as an attempt to “tear this country apart.” It was a blunt and arguably overdue reaction to lingering romantic fantasies regarding what was basically a last-ditch defense of human slavery. This is the same Mitch Landrieu, by the way, who in 2014 answered the inaugural “Summons to Memphis” issued by Memphis magazine, our sister publication, and came here to deliver an inspirational message about various new directions in urban policy. Clearly, he believes in leading by example.

So, it appears, do Memphians Howard and Beverly Robertson of Trust Marketing, who this week, at the National Civil Rights Museum, were to unveil a campaign on behalf of the Lynching Sites Project of Memphis, described in their press release as “a nonprofit Tennessee organization formed to locate and mark known lynching sites.”

To be sure, we write this in advance of their scheduled press conference and cannot vouch for all the details of the Lynching Sites venture. As we see it, memorializing the places where such public horrors took place during the era of Jim Crow is akin to the concept of remembering the Holocaust at the various worldwide ceremonial sites that do so. And not much different from the memorials to Pearl Harbor or 9/11, for that matter.

Tragedies and misprisions of the past require our attention quite as much as do the heroics of history, real or imaginary, and it is hard to conceive of anything more directly counter to the pomp and self-deception of the numerous monuments to the Confederacy that remain.

How does that famous quote from George Santayana go? “Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”

Commentary by Greg Cravens
This week marks President Trump’s 100th day in office. On day one, after listening to Trump’s inaugural address, former President George W. Bush reportedly said: “That was some weird s—t.” The GOP establishment still holds that view after 100 days of President Trump.

Democrats are offering “we told you so” looks. Trump’s most striking achievement in his first three months is being the least popular new president in modern history.

A majority of Americans — 52 percent — disapprove of his job performance as president, according to the most recent Gallup tracking poll. Even Trump’s supporters have to admit these first three months have been defined by the administration’s failure to deliver on campaign promises. For all of Trump’s talk about being a great dealmaker, the flashing lights on the political scorecard read as follows:

No repeal of Obamacare. No tax reform. No Muslim travel ban — the attempt to enact one is bogged down in the courts — and no evidence to support the incredible claim that President Obama had Trump wiretapped.

There is also no wall on the southern border and no indication that Mexico will pay for it. And in the last few weeks, the reversals on campaign promises have come thick and fast.

Now, Trump approves of the Export-Import Bank. Now, Trump is no longer a fan of the border adjustment tax. Now, he believes in NATO. Now, China will not be listed as a currency manipulator. Now, Janet Yellen is a good chairwoman of the Federal Reserve.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) put all the flip-flops in delicate terms so as not to offend the Trump faithful: “I think President Trump is learning the job, and some of the things that were said during the campaign, I think he now knows — that’s simply not the way things ought to be.”

Trump’s singular success was getting Neil Gorsuch confirmed to the Supreme Court. But the credit for that win should properly go to the Heritage Foundation and the conservative legal minds at the Federalist Society. They compiled a list of their favorite conservative judges and handed it to Trump.

Now, let’s look ahead to Trump’s next 100 days. The biggest threat to Trump is the split between him and Republicans in Congress. FiveThirtyEight.com forecaster Harry Enten tweeted earlier this month that the House GOP caucus is in the worst position of any party holding the House majority since 1954, when voters were first asked their preference for which party rules the House. That ballot question was simply, “If the election were held today, would you vote for the Republican or the Democratic candidate?” Enten’s average of polls has the Republicans down by six points.

There is more than a year for the Republicans to dig out from there, but it is a big hole. That gives Republicans every reason to start distancing themselves from the Trump White House. Democrats are already standing far away. Yet Trump needs Congress’s help right now to avoid a government shutdown.

After a two-week Easter recess, Congress returns to work with just four days left until funding for current government operations is set to expire on April 29th.

Trump’s most striking achievement in his first three months is being the least popular new president.

The top two Senate Republicans, McConnell and Majority Whip John Cornyn (Texas), are calling for a bipartisan, stop-gap funding measure to stave off a shutdown.

So, now we have leading Republicans calling on President Trump to work with the Democrats. But Democrats know that Trump’s plans for future budgets anger their base. So why would they help him?

The Trump blueprint for future budgets, released last month, outlined draconian cuts to funds that support popular education, social welfare, and economic development programs. Meals on wheels for the elderly and after school programs for disadvantaged youths were two that invited public outcry.

Trump recently said he remains focused on health reform and is threatening to withhold subsidies to insurance companies to force Democrats to help him pass a bill to replace Obamacare.

If you are a Democrat who enjoyed the disastrous GOP civil war over their health-care bill, then you are going to love the upcoming GOP slugfest over spending and taxes.

Juan Williams is an author and a political analyst for Fox News Channel.

Juan Williams is an author and a political analyst for Fox News Channel.
"If it bleeds, it leads" is the conventional wisdom regarding local TV news programming. But how real is the hype? And if it’s real, just how much blood are we talking about? Buckets? Boatloads? Mother-of-All-Boatloads?

The digital revolution hasn’t diminished the role TV news plays as a window to the world. For rural Americans — whose communities receive relatively little TV coverage — it’s a daily dose of urban life. For most media consumers, it’s their primary source for public affairs information. So what are they seeing? There are compelling reasons to measure the amount of crime coverage in nightly broadcasts relative to content about government, business, justice, culture, community, etc.

In 1996, The Memphis Flyer ran a cheeky cover package called "Guns & Bunnies." We watched Memphis’ TV news broadcasts for a week to determine just how many minutes, on average, each station devoted to stories about violence, criminal activity, and disaster — a category we called "Guns."

We also measured how much time each station devoted to fluffy news, such as celebrity-watching, cute animals, self-promotion, curiosities, and trivia — a category we called "Bunnies." For this week’s issue, the Flyer staff recreated the original experiment, monitoring each of Memphis’ four news teams over four consecutive days. Minute-by-minute viewing diaries were kept, chronicling the headlines and the amount of time spent covering each story.

Memphis actually has five news stations: WMC-5, WREG-3, WHBQ-13, WATN-24, and WLMT-30. The last two constitute a duopoly under the same ownership, sharing a news team and content. To avoid redundancy and to measure similar half-hour news blocks, this survey looks only at the 10 p.m. broadcasts of WMC, WREG, WHBQ, and WATN.

The period between Tuesday, April 11th and Friday, April 14th was a relatively normal news week. Big national stories included the U.S. military action against Syria. Regional news included an attempt by Arkansas to step up the execution timeline for death row prisoners; a Memphis couple’s alleged racist vacation rant; and the Memphis Zoo naming its newborn hippo.

If the mayhem numbers reported below seem large, they may also be misleading and a little low, since not all chaos is created equal. It doesn’t get more violent than dropping something called “the mother of all bombs,” but that story was identified as U.S. foreign affairs. Similarly, some Arkansas death row reports revisited the crimes and victims of convicted felons, while others focused on celebrity protest. These stories were treated as reporting on criminal justice, not criminal activity.

Now, without further delay — A BREAKING EXCLUSIVE FROM THE MEMPHIS FLYER: GUNS AND BUNNIES HAVE BEEN SPOTTED ALL OVER THE NIGHTLY NEWS!

"Jesus Stolen" and "Sisters Murdered" Were Two Stories Starting Friday’s News.

WREG News Channel 3 (Tribune Broadcasting)

Every night, WREG signs on with the old line “It’s 10 o’clock. Do you know where your children are?” And for good reason, given the reporting. Highlights from Tuesday’s broadcast included a
truck crashing through apartments in Parkway Village, a woman shot while driving in Orange Mound, an Arkansas machete attack, an exploding ammo plant in Missouri, and mysterious lights in the sky over San Diego. A four-minute teen violence package covered a Binghamton murder, a shooting in Tom Lee Park, and a North Memphis shooting broadcast that was on Facebook Live. Tuesday’s broadcast also covered the story of a sick Midtown kid who’s getting a trip to Disneyworld and included the popular segment, “Pass It On,” wherein Richard Ransom gives money to people who need it.

Wednesday’s broadcast began with gunshots at a North Memphis community center, followed by reports about an Arkansas man who set his wife on fire and a deadly explosion in Lakeland. Also covered: bullets in a barber shop in Arizona; microchips being installed in people in Sweden; a 9-year-old driving himself to McDonald’s in Ohio; and a fight between a horse and an alligator in Florida. (The horse won, by the way.)

Thursday’s broadcast led with a young child left at home, followed by a man charged with murder in Hickory Hill, three people killed in a Benton County car crash, and a woman who was carjacked at First Congo church. On the less grim side, a miniature goat was carjacked at First Congo church. When local TV news runs out of scary and adorable news stories to report, they pick up scary and adorable stories from other markets with headlines like, “Mom Charged with Running a Major Opioid Ring From Kitchen Table” and “Woman Found Wet and Nearly Naked, Claiming to Be a Mermaid.” A slideshow at memphisflyer.com collects some of our favorite recent “guns & bunnies” stories from elsewhere.

Wednesday’s broadcast also covered the story of a sick Midtown kid who’s getting a trip to Disneyworld and included the popular segment, “Pass It On,” wherein Richard Ransom gives money to people who need it.
continued from page 13

execution of death row inmates in Arkansas. Crime reporting continued with the rape of a minor in Arkansas, a Rutherford County shooting, and a man breaking into cars.

WHSV led off Thursday with a story about Tennessee's weed bill, followed by pieces about adults getting free tuition for community college, the U.S. MOAB bomb in Afghanistan, a non-critical shooting in Orange Mound, the Tennessee Senate passing a new age requirement for school bus drivers, and Toyota expanding in Mississippi.

"Arkansas blocks lethal drug in execution" got Friday started, followed by stories about two shootings in Tom Lee Park, a man robbed at a fraternity house, buildings on fire in Nashville, and a Murfreesboro couple charged with neglecting to feed their baby. A report on local refugees was followed by the story of a Mississippi family facing deportation.

Based on our four-day sample, Fox 13 devoted 55 percent of its weeknight 10 p.m. broadcast to news, 13 percent to weather, 2 percent to sports, and 8 percent to teasers. Advertising filled the remaining 22 percent of air time.

WHSV's "guns" rating was 48 percent: content related to crime, violence, mayhem, and disaster. "Bunnies" stories — celebrities, trivia, novelty, and feel-good fluff — comprised 8 percent of the station's news content. Nearly 44 percent of Fox's news programming covered stories that didn't scream, bleed, or taste delicious when fried in a light batter and served with tangy mustard sauce.

WATN Local 24 (Nexstar Media Group)

Based on our sample, WATN-24 (formerly WPTY) appears to have the highest percentage of mayhem in the Memphis market. In fact, among Memphis stations, Channel 24 seems to devote the least amount of time to news reporting.

WATN begins its weeknight broadcasts with a weather update. Tuesday's opening news roundup covered road rage and a pop-up park, a Cookeville shooting, a Memphis chocolatier appearing in British Vogue, a local salon that's pampering kids who make good grades, and a safety alert about Tom Lee Park.

Following weather and its headline roundup, Wednesday's newscast began with a story about the identification of a body found in a car trunk, followed by the Shelby County Commission addressing sewage backups in Cottonwood, a propane tank exploding in California, and a Mississippi video of a fight at Alcorn State that went viral. Other stories included the Tennessee Department of Transportation suspending work for Easter, Ole Miss football coach Hugh Freeze being protested by an atheist group, and a Bartlett woman who turned 100.

Thursday's broadcast began with news that violent crime is up in Memphis, and with two sisters being killed in Hickory Hill. Those stories were followed by Shelby County officials warning faith-based organizations celebrating the Passover and Easter holidays to be on high alert, a Target recall of potentially dangerous Easter toys, and Loretta Lynn's new record.

"Jesus Stolen" and "Sisters Murdered" were the two stories starting Friday's news block, followed by the Memphis couple's alleged racist rant, a boy recovering at Le Bonheur after being shot, Delta Airlines paying for overbooked flights, and a stay of execution for Arkansas prisoners, featuring star power mentions of Johnny Depp and Damien Echols.

Based on our sample, Local 24 devoted 28 percent of its weeknight 10 p.m. broadcast to news, 13 percent to weather, 14 percent to sports, and 6 percent to teasers. The station's ad content was 39 percent.

Local 24 earned a 60 percent "guns" rating — news content concerning crime, violence, mayhem and disaster. Around 25 percent of the station's news content was "bunnies" — stories about celebrities, trivia, novelty, and fluffy feel-good pieces. About 15 percent of its news programming covered stories that didn't scream, bleed, or hop around and serve as an easy metaphor for an overactive libido.

So that was the Memphis television news, as surveyed between April 11th and April 14th, 2017. To say the least, our news stations painted a rather dystopian picture of life in Memphis, focusing heavily on crime, violence, and mayhem, while stirring in lots of stories to make us say "aw" or "wow!"

If all of Memphis' major stations were rolled up into one big news broadcast, 50.6 percent of their average news content would be "guns," and 16 percent would be "bunnies." Only about a third of local news programming covers stories that are neither.

Is it any wonder lots of people have a skewed view of life in Memphis?
**THE BEST JUST GOT BETTER**

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<th>LUNCH</th>
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<th>SEAFOOD</th>
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Let’s Get Lit  By Susan Ellis

Mike Todd’s been championing the Edge District since 1994. That’s when he bought his first building in the area. “I’m not a gentrification guy. I’m a capitalist,” he says. But, he adds, “I want the Edge to maintain its coolness.”

To that end, there’s The Edge Gets Lit! Alley Party set for Saturday, April 29th, noon to 11 p.m. This is a place-making event for Floyd Alley, designed after similar events in other cities. The alley will be strung with 1,000 feet of lighting — signaling that the alley is safe and spotlighting all the businesses and stuff that’s going on.

The alley party will take advantage of the Edge’s resources. The Black Farmers Association, a new tenant, will be in charge of the hay rides. Evelyn & Olive, a sponsor of the event, will be cooking on site. There will be storytelling, too — on the history of music in the Edge and Sam Phillips and Sun Records.

We can’t not mention the Wacky Dog Olympics, which will include the Great American Peanut Butter Lick Off. As described by Darrin Hillis, Edge supporter and owner of event production company In the Wings, this involves dog owners, about a cup of peanut butter per, swim goggles, and (most likely excited) dogs.

Of course, the highlight of the event will be the lighting of the alley. The switch is thrown about 7:50 p.m. The ultimate goal, Hillis says joking, is to eliminate the question, “Now, where’s the Edge?” “Bottom line,” he says, “is to expose the Edge. It’s everything cool in one spot.”

THE EDGE GETS LIT! ALLEY PARTY AT FLOYD ALLEY, SATURDAY, APRIL 29TH, NOON TO 11 P.M.
Welcome to Bookstock!

Book It! By Susan Ellis

You know how at some offices they’ll have one monthly birthday party to cover the entire staff? Well, consider Memphis Public Library’s annual Bookstock event that party, only with local authors instead of cakes and candles.

According to the library’s Adult Services Coordinator Wang-Ying Glasgow, the origins of Memphis Public Library’s Bookstock were purely practical. Local authors would approach the library to do a booksigning. Not having the staff to accommodate all the requests, they would turn down most of them until the idea struck them to have one large, yearly event. Now, when the library’s approached by authors, Glasgow says, “We tell them we have this event for you.”

Bookstock, now in its seventh year, features 40 local authors — covering everything from nonfiction to inspirational. Different this year: Instead of one keynote speaker, they’ll have four. They are Lisa Wingate, author of Before We Were Yours; ReShonda Tate Billingsley, author of The Secret She Kept and The Perfect Mistress; Daniel Connolly, author of The Book of Isaias; and Adrienne Berard, author of Water Tossing Boulders. Flyer friends Justin Fox Burks and Amy Lawrence will be giving a cooking demo, and Otis Sanford, Geoff Calkins, and Mark Greaney are among the other authors who will be at the event.

One key feature of Bookstock is the scavenger hunt. Every author’s booth has a clue. This encourages guests to talk to the authors. There will also be hat making and musical story times. Kids can get their faces painted like a storytime character.

Connolly’s Book of Isaias follows a young Latino immigrant in Memphis. Berard’s Water Tossing Boulders tells the true story of a Chinese family in Mississippi fighting segregation. In a nod to those books and to draw in all of Memphis, Bookstock will feature Latino dancers and a Chinese choir and other flourishes. These are “our stories,” says Glasgow. The event, she says, is focused on community and history.

BOOKSTOCK AT BENJAMIN L. HOOKS CENTRAL LIBRARY, SATURDAY, APRIL 29TH, 11 A.M.-3 P.M.

Based on the book of the same name, James Gray’s The Lost City of Z stars Charlie Hunnam (above right). Film, p. 34

East Buntyn ArtWalk
East Buntyn neighborhood, 1-7 p.m.
Front lawns turn into art galleries during this annual event.

Cajun Festival
Saint Patrick Church, noon
Includes a gumbo tasting, beer, and music by Marcella Simien and Earl Randle. Proceeds go to the programs of Saint Patrick Community Outreach.

Suds for Buds
Celtic Crossing, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., $12
Includes beer, a silent auction, and goody bags benefiting Passion for Pits Rescue.

Playhouse on the Square’s 40th Annual Original Art Auction
Playhouse on the Square, 6:30 p.m., $40
Annual art auction and party with works from over 100 artists.

Breakfast for Dinner
Galloway House, 6 p.m., $10-$20
Pancakes and breakfast casseroles! Plus bloody marys and mimosas. Benefiting Room in the Inn.

Puppy Up
Overton Park, noon-4 p.m., $20
A two-mile walk to raise awareness of canine cancer.

Beale Street Wine Race
Beale Street, 1 p.m.
Debauchery on full display.
Includes grape stomping and the popular Queen of the Vine contest.
I’m searching for Don Lifted’s East Memphis crib, but I’m not sure which house on the crowded street is his. Then I see the battered Oldsmobile in the driveway. It’s the trusty, mid-sized domestic sedan immortalized in the title of his new album, Alero.

“The suburbs are a pause for me,” he says.

The nine songs on Alero evoke a particular moment in his life when he didn’t have a place to pause. Before he was Don Lifted, Lawrence Matthews’ girlfriend Aleq went to college in Washington, D.C., and he enrolled in a Baltimore school to be near her. “I was on my own for the first time. I had never traveled outside of the South.”

But the constant crush of people and personal turmoil threw him for a loop. “I had some demons I had to get out about that time period. It was a time that I had a lot of frustrations, but I had extreme longing for that time and place and the experiences I had there. I wanted to relive them. The reality was, it was beautiful, but it was bad at the same time. I was poor; I got kicked out of school; I was struggling. I don’t want to say it was drugs… I was being young and dumb about what I was putting in my body.”

Matthews returned to Memphis, but Aleq stayed in D.C. to finish her schooling. For him, that meant a lot of driving back and forth. “It’s a record about the time period spent in the car.”

Eventually, he got a degree in art from the University of Memphis. “I did everything. I was a photographer, painting, sculpture work, installations, everything. I decided to focus on painting because at the time, that was what people knew me the most for.”

At the same time Lawrence Matthews’ visual art was gaining traction, Don Lifted’s music was struggling. At first, he was making beats for rappers, but when he heard
the finished songs, he always was disappointed with the results. “I knew I was writing better songs than these people. So I started writing my own songs and making mixtapes,” he says. “I have to be in control. I now understand that about myself. I make decisions based on maintaining control over what I do.”

These days, the control extends to the venues where he plays. The artist’s first gigs were multi-artist showcases in traditional club venues. “I always had very elaborate visions of ways I wanted to see and express my music. It’s an all-encompassing art experience. In these group shows, you can’t really do your own thing. You just have to be a person on the stage. That’s not why I’m doing it. I’m not doing it to just be a performer. That’s just an element of the greater scheme. After a couple of bad experiences, I decided I’m never doing that again. I have to have my own stuff, to sell and curate my own performances and experiences. It started at Crosstown Arts and then branched off from there.”

The autobiographical Alero mixes chillwave synths with twisted and chopped samples.

In mid-April, he became one of the first musical acts to play in the Brooks Museum’s downstairs theater, utilizing multiple digital projectors to create layered, moving images over the stage while he performed songs from Alero, his prior album, December, and some new material. “Art comes easier. Music is a challenge to me. … Being the guy who has to perform these lyrics I wrote, that’s hard. I get stressed about that. I have extreme doubts and extreme confidence in myself musically. The autobiographical Alero mixes chillwave synths with twisted and chopped samples. Don’s verses are quick and staccato, sounding sometimes as if the ideas and memories are coming too fast for him to keep up. ‘I’ve done a lot of projects, but that was the only one that flowed out like that. It happened really quickly.’

For the accompanying videos, he teamed up with Crosstown Arts’ Justin Thompson for “It’s Your World” and “Take Control of Me.” For Matthews, it was a life-changing experience — and one that reinforced his determination to stay in Memphis. “When I was in Los Angeles, I thought ‘I could come out here, like everyone else is coming out here, and I could make it out here.’ But every time I do something [in Memphis], the impact is much deeper and more spiritual. They don’t need me in Los Angeles. They don’t need me in New York.”

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For the accompanying videos, he teamed up with Crosstown Arts’ Justin Thompson for “It’s Your World” and “Take Control of Me.”

“I want to make as many videos as I can. I want to tell the stories through great videos,” he says. “I need people who are just as maniacal and controlling about what they do as I am about what I do.”

The mastering for Alero took place in Hollywood, California, with Kendrick Lamar’s engineer Mike Bozzi. For Matthews, it was a life-changing experience — and one that reinforced his determination to stay in Memphis. “When I was in Los Angeles, I thought ‘I could come out here, like everyone else is coming out here, and I could make it out here.’ But every time I do something [in Memphis], the impact is much deeper and more spiritual. They don’t need me in Los Angeles. They don’t need me in New York.”
After Dark: Live Music Schedule April 27 - May 3

**BEALE STREET**

Alfred's
197 BEALE 525-3711
Gary Hardy & Memphis 2
Thursdays-Saturdays, 6-9 p.m.

Karaoke Thursdays, Tuesdays-Wednesdays, 9-1 a.m., and Saturdays, 10 p.m.-3 a.m.; Mardi Gras Mondays, Saturdays, 6-9 p.m.; The 901 Heavy Hitters Fridays, Saturdays, 10 p.m.-2 a.m.; Flyin'/Third Floor: DJ Tubbz

Fridays, Saturdays, 5-8 p.m.; Sundays, 9 p.m.-2 a.m.; and Mondays-Wednesdays, 5-8 p.m.

Silly O’Sullivan’s
183 BEALE 522-9596
Dueling Pianos
Thursdays, Saturdays, 5-9:30 p.m.; Fridays, Saturdays, 9 p.m.-2 a.m.; and Sundays, 9-9:30 p.m.

King’s Palace Cafe
Patio
162 BEALE 521-1851
Sonny Mack Mondays-Fridays, 2-6 p.m.; Cowboy Neil Mondays, Thursdays, 9-11 p.m. and Saturdays, 2-6 p.m.; Sensation Band Tuesdays, Fridays, 7-11 p.m.; Fuzzy and the Kings of Memphis Saturdays, 7-11 p.m.; Chic Jones and the Blues Express Sundays, 7-11 p.m.; North and South Band, Wednesdays-Thursday, 7-11 p.m.

King’s Palace Cafe
Tap Room
168 BEALE 576-2220
Big Don Valentine’s Three Piece Chicken and a Biscuit Band
Thursdays, 8 p.m.-midnight.

New Daisy Theatre
330 BEALE 525-8981
Jessie Cook Thursday, April 27, 8-11 p.m.; Morgan Page Saturday, April 29, 10 p.m.

Rojo Boogie Cafe
182 BEALE 528-0150
Young Poet Thieves Thursday, April 27, 8-10 p.m.; Jimmy & Terry Friday, April 28, 5:30-8:30 p.m.; Free World Friday, April 28, 9-11 p.m., and Saturday, April 29, 5-9 p.m.; Jeff Crosslin Saturday, April 29, 5-8 p.m.; Sensation Band Sunday, April 30, 7-11 p.m.; Eric Hughes Band Mondays, 8 p.m.-midnight; Gracie Curran Tuesdays, 8-10 p.m.

Plantation Allstars Wednesdays, 8-9 p.m.

Run Boogie Cafe
Blues Hall
182 BEALE 528-0150
Memphis Bluesmasters
Thursdays, Sundays, 8-9 p.m.-midnight; Vince Johnson and the Plantation Allstars
Fridays, Saturdays, 4-8 p.m., and Sundays, 7-10 p.m.; McDaniel Band
Tuesday, Wednesdays, 8 p.m.-midnight and Friday, April 28, 9-9 p.m.-midnight; Chic Jones and The Blues Express Saturday, April 29, 4-8 p.m.; Little Boys Blue Saturday, April 29, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.; Brian Hawkins Blues Party Mondays, 8 p.m.-midnight.

Huey’s Downtown
77 S. SECOND 527-2700
Soul Shooters Sunday, April 30, 8:30 p.m.-midnight.

Paulette’s
RIVER INN, 50 HARBOR TOWN
SQUARE 260-3300
Live Pianist Thursdays, 5:30-8:30 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, 5:30-9 p.m.; Sundays, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; and Mondays-Wednesdays, 5:30-8 p.m.

Purple Haze Nightclub
140 LT. GEORGE W. LEE 577-1139
DJ Dance Music
Sundays, 10 p.m.

Rumba Room
303 S. MAIN 523-0020
Salsa Night Saturdays, 8:30-10 p.m.

The Silly Goose
100 PEABODY PLACE 425-6915
DJ Cody Fridays, Saturdays, 9 p.m.; and Sundays, 7 p.m.

South Main
Green River Brewhouse
827 S. MAIN 278-0087
Sarah Rector Trio Saturday, April 29, 6-9 p.m.; Sunday Evening Slowdown with Crockett Hall & Jana Jana Sunday, April 30, 5-7:30 p.m.

Lolfin Yard
7 W. CAROLINA
Electric Church Sundays, 2-4 p.m.

**DOWNTOWN**

Blind Bear Speakeasy
119 S. MAIN, PEMBROKE
SQUARE 417-8435
Live Music
Thursdays-Saturdays, 10 p.m.

Brass Door Irish Pub
152 MADISON 525-1813
Live Music Fridays.

Cannon Center for the Performing Arts
MEMPHIS COOK CONVENTION CENTER, 255 N. MAIN TICKETS, 525-1515
Pops 3 A Salute to John Williams Saturday, April 29, 7-10 p.m.

Dirty Crow Inn
855 KENTUCKY
Bluff City Backsliders Saturday, April 29, 9-10 p.m.

Earmust and Hazel’s
513 S. MAIN 523-9754
Amber Rae Dunn Hosts: Earnestine and Hazel’s Open Mic Wednesdays, 8-11 p.m.

Flying Saucer Draught Emporium
130 PEABODY PLACE 523-8336
Songwriters with Roland and Friends Mondays, 7-10 p.m.

The Halloran Centre
225 S. MAIN 529-4299
Charisse Saturday, April 29, 6-9 p.m.

Huck’s Bar DKDC
964 S. COOPER 272-0380
The Crucial Deets Thursday, April 27; Deering and Down Town, Friday, April 28, 10 p.m.

Howlin Wolf
2120 MADISON 422-2222
Sunday Brunch with Joyce Cobb Sundays, 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Laffayette’s Music Room
2191 MADISON 207-5097
Book release party for I’m Just Dead, I’m Not Gone by Jim Dickinson Thursday, April 30, 6-7 p.m.; Ruby Velle & the Soulphonics Friday, April 28, 10 p.m., and Saturday, April 29, 10 p.m.

Canvas
1737 MADISON 443-5232
Karaoke Thursdays, 9:30 p.m.; Kyle Prunze Live Mondays, 10 p.m.-midnight.

Celtic Crossing
903 S. COOPER 274-5151
Jerry Stantill and Joshua Cosby Sundays, 6-9 p.m.; Candy Company Mondays.

The Cove
2559 BROAD 730-0719
Ed Finney and the U of M Jazz Quartet Thursdays, 4 p.m.; Justin White & Friends Friday, April 28, 10 p.m.; Blackwater Trio Saturday, April 29, 7 p.m.; Don and Wayde Tuesdays, 7-10 p.m.

Drue’s Place
1474 MADISON 275-8082
Karaoke Fridays-Sundays.

Growlers
1911 POPLAR 244-7904
Strong Music for Thompson Springs, Raqueta Fridays, April 30, Record Breakers Reunion Party Saturday, April 29, Jungle Boogie Sunday, April 30, Music Industry Nite Monday, May 1; Pint Nite with Mr. Lovett, Crockett Hall Tuesday, May 2; Hosoi Bros., Gunpowder Graves, Pow that Be, No Love for Liones Wednesdays, May 3.

Hi-Tone
412-414 N. CLEVELAND 278-TONE
Coast 2 Coast Mixtapes Thursday, April 27; Stop Doing Heroin Awareness Show Friday, April 28, 6 p.m., GGCOOLLLDD Friday, April 28, 8 p.m.; Doula the Right Thing Saturday, April 29, 7 p.m.; Jet Black Alley Kat, Dave Bao Bao Saturday, April 29, 8 p.m., Stage Hypnagogic Frank Lee Sunday, April 30, 7 p.m.; Every Time I Die, Wage War, ‘80 Tuesday, May 2, 6 p.m.

Huey’s Midtown
1927 MADISON 726-4372
The Dantonos Sunday, April 30, 4-7 p.m.; Ghost Town Blues Band Sunday, April 30, 8-10 p.m.

Central Library
1455 MADISON 866-609-1744
Leela James, Dailure Thursday, April 27, 8 p.m.; The Funky Knuckles Friday, April 28, 8 p.m.; Cody Links Saturday, April 29, 7 p.m.

Murphy’s
1589 MADISON 726-4193
Gift Shop with Kittie Dearing and Crockett Hall Wednesday, May 3.

Otherside Coffee Bar
641 S. COOPER 278-4994
Short in the Sleeve Saturday, April 29.

Overton Park
OFF POPLAR
Pleasant Festival Saturday, April 29, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

P&H Cafe
1532 MADISON 726-0906
Rock Starksarke, Fridays Fresh, Ten High Saturday, April 29, 9-11:30 p.m.; Open Mic with Tiffany Harmon Mondays, 9 p.m.-midnight; Ben Dayton, Semi-Average Joe Wednesday, May 3.

The Phoenix
1015 S. COOPER 338-5223
The Phoenix Blues Jam Tuesdays, 8-11 p.m.

The Tower Courtyard at Overton Square
2092 TRIPLE CROWN
Acoustic Courtyard Last Thursday of every month, 6-9 p.m.; Stax Music Academy Spring Concert Sunday, April 30, 4-6 p.m.

Wild Bill’s
1850 VOLKSTIN 207-3975
The Wild Bill’s Band Fridays, Saturdays, 11 a.m.-3 a.m.
After Dark: Live Music Schedule April 27 - May 3

{ EAST }

University of Memphis
The Bluff
535 S. HIGHLAND
DK Variation Thursday, April 27; Hear
901 Festival Friday, April 28; 8 p.m.; The River Blues Band Saturday, April 29; 8 p.m.

Ubec’s
521 S. HIGHLAND 323-0900
Karaoke; Wednesday, 9 p.m.-2 a.m.

East Memphis
Dan McGuinness Pub
4464 SPOTTSTOWN 761-3711
Karaoke; Wednesday, 8 p.m.

Folk’s Folly
Prime Steak House
551 S. MENDENHALL 762-8200
Intimate Piano Lounge featuring Charlotte Hart Mondays-Thursdays, 5-9:30 p.m.; Larry Cunningham Fridays, 6-10 p.m.

Fox and Hound Sports Tavern
5101 SANDERLIN 763-2013
Karaoke; Tuesdays, 9 p.m.

Hy’s Poplar
4872 POPULAR 682-7729
The Settlers Sunday, April 30; 4-7 p.m.; The King Bee Sunday, April 30; 8:30 p.m.-midnight.

Mortimer’s
590 N. PERKINS 761-9321
Van Duren Solo Thursdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

T.J. Mulligan’s
1817 KIRBY 755-2481
Karaoke; Tuesdays, 8 p.m.

The Windjammer Restaurant
786 E. BROOKHaven CIRCLE 682-9044
Karaoke every Tuesday.

{ SUBURBS }

Arlington/Ends/Oakland/Lakeland
De Terra Vineyard & WInes of Summerville
605 JOINERS CAMPGROUND 606-3390
Forks & Corks Saturday, April 29; 6-10 p.m.

Music Tuesdays, Wednesdays, 8 p.m.-midnight.

Shelby Forest General Store
7235 BENJESTOWN 767-5770
Tony Butler Fridays, 6-8 p.m.; Highland Duo Saturday, April 29; 12-3 p.m.; Robert Hull Sundays, 12:30-3:30 p.m.

T.J. Mulligan’s Cordova
8071 TRINITY 756-4480
The Sensations Sunday, April 30; 9 p.m.

Frayser/Millington
Harpo’s Hoppon
4212 HWY 51 N. 530-0414
Live Music Saturdays, 9 p.m.

Huey’s Germantown
7677 FARMINGTON 318-3034
Young Petty Thieves Sunday, April 30; 8-11:30 p.m.; No Yoko Wednesday, May 3; 6-9 p.m.

Ice Bar & Grill
4202 HACKS CROSS 757-1423
Unwind Wednesdays; 6 p.m.-midnight.

Russo’s New York
Pizzeria & Wine Bar
9087 POPULAR 755-0092
Live Music on the patio; Thursdays-Saturdays, 7-10 p.m.

North Mississippi/ Tunican
BankPlus Amphitheater at Snowcone Grove
6235 SNOWDEN, SOUTHaVEN, MS (662) 892-2660
Southaven Springfest featuring Better Than Ezra and Craig Morgan Friday, April 28.

The Crossing Bar & Grill
7281 HACKS CROSS, OLIVE BRANCH, MS 662-893-6242
Karaoke with Buddha Tuesdays, Thursdays, 8 p.m.-midnight.

Dan McGuinness
3964 GOODMAN, SOUTHaVEN, MS 662-890-7811
Acoustic Music Tuesdays.

Foxy’s: Live Music Bar & Grill
6565 TOWNE CENTER, SOUTH AVEN, MS 662-536-2290
Live Music Mondays, 5 p.m.; Karaoke Tuesdays.

Gold Strike Casino
1010 CASINO CENTER IN TUNICA, MS 1-888-245-7829
Chaka Khan Saturday, April 29, 8 p.m.

Hollywood Casino
1150 CASINO STRIP RESORT, TUNICA, MS 662-357-7700
Live Entertainment Fridays, Saturdays, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

Horseshoe Casino & Hotel
At CASINO CENTER, SOUTH OF MEMPHIS, NEAR TUNICA, MS 1-800-303-SHOE
RIO Speedwagon Friday, April 28.

Huey’s Southaven
7090 MALCO, SOUTHAVEN, MS 662-249-7097
Vintage Saturday, April 30, 8 p.m.-midnight; Karaoke Night Mondays, 9-11 p.m.

Tunica Roadhouse
1107 CASINO CENTER, TUNICA, MS 662-353-4900
Live Music Fridays, Saturdays.

Raleigh
Stage Stop
2951 CELA 382-1576
Blues Jam Every Thursday Night hosted by Brad Webb Thursdays; 7-11 p.m.; Open Mic Night and Steel Night Tuesdays; 6 p.m.-midnight.

{ SOUTH }

Whitehaven/ Airport
Marlow’s Ribs & Restaurant
4381 ELVIS PRESLEY 332-4159
Karaoke with DJ Stylez Thursdays, Sundays, 10 p.m.

Cheffie’s Cafe
483 HIGH POINT TERRACE 202-4157
Songwriter Night hosted by Leigh Ann Wilmot and Dave “The Rave” Saturdays, 5-8 p.m.

Maria’s Restaurant
649 SUMMER 356-2324
Karaoke Fridays, 5-8 p.m.

Rizzit’s/Paradiso Pub
6230 GREENLEE 592-0344
Live Music Thursdays, Wednesdays, 7-10 p.m.; Karaoke and Dance Music with DJ Funn Fridays, 9 p.m.

3rd Coast Studio
2951 CELA 382-1576
Blues Jam Every Thursday Night hosted by Brad Webb Thursdays; 7-11 p.m.; Open Mic Night and Steel Night Tuesdays; 6 p.m.-midnight.

Pops Prceeds
6565 TOWNE CENTER, SOUTH AVEN, MS 662-536-2290
Live Music Mondays, 5 p.m.; Karaoke Tuesdays.

Huey’s Southaven
7090 MALCO, SOUTHAVEN, MS 662-249-7097
Vintage Saturday, April 30, 8 p.m.-midnight; Karaoke Night Mondays, 9-11 p.m.

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Cordova
Huie’s Collierville
2130 W. POPULAR 854-4455
Charley Mac’s Six String Lovers Sunday, April 30; 8:30-11:30 p.m.

Cordova
Fox and Hound Sports Tavern
819 EXOCET 624-9060
Karaoke Tuesdays, 9 p.m.

Haystack Bar & Grill
6560 HWY. 51 N. 872-0567
Dantones Band Friday, April 28, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

Old Millington Winery
6748 OLD MILLINGTON 873-4114
901 Blues Band Sunday, April 30.

Germantown
Germantown Performing Arts Center
1801 EXETER 751-7500
IBS Orchestra: A Passion for Dance Saturday, April 29, 8-11 p.m.; and Sunday, April 30, 2-4 p.m.

Huey’s Southwind
7825 WINCHESTER 624-8911
The Sensations Sunday, April 30, 8:30 p.m.-midnight.

BankPlus Amphitheater at Snowcone Grove
6235 SNOWDEN, SOUTHHAVEN, MS (662) 892-2660
Southaven Springfest featuring Better Than Ezra and Craig Morgan Friday, April 28.

The Crossing Bar & Grill
7281 HACKS CROSS, OLIVE BRANCH, MS 662-893-6242
Karaoke with Buddha Tuesdays, Thursdays, 8 p.m.-midnight.

Dan McGuinness
3964 GOODMAN, SOUTHHAVEN, MS 662-890-7811
Acoustic Music Tuesdays.

Foxy’s: Live Music Bar & Grill
6565 TOWNE CENTER, SOUTHHAVEN, MS 662-536-2290
Live Music Mondays, 5 p.m.; Karaoke Tuesdays.

Horseshoe Casino & Hotel
At CASINO CENTER, SOUTH OF MEMPHIS, NEAR TUNICA, MS 1-800-303-SHOE
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2951 CELA 382-1576
Blues Jam Every Thursday Night hosted by Brad Webb Thursdays; 7-11 p.m.; Open Mic Night and Steel Night Tuesdays; 6 p.m.-midnight.
Theater

Circuit Playhouse

Deeley Departed, in the backwoods of the Bible Belt, the Turpin family has just suffered the loss of their father. Problems keep overlapping with an idyllic southern occasion. Living and dying in the South are seldom tidy and always hilarious.

www.playhouseonthesquare.com, Sun., April 29, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 7:30 p.m.

Crosstown Arts

The Emperor’s New Clothes, Theatrical performance by the New Hope Christian Academy drama club. www.crosstownarts.org, Fri., April 28, 6-9 p.m.

Germantown Community Theatre

The Glass Menagerie, classic written by Tennessee Williams about the Wingfield family living in the St. Louis tenement in the 1930s. www.gctcomeplay.org, Sat., April 29, 8, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Hattiloo Theatre


St. Timothy’s Episcopal Church

Nor Suspicious Dinner Theatre, comic mystery sequel about ex-priest eye Rick Archer, now the confused manager of Cafe Noir. www.notimurly.org, Fri., April 28, 7 p.m.

Theatre Memphis

Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, classic explores the family relations of the Wingfield family living in a St. Louis tenement in the 1930s. www.theatrememphis.org, Sat., April 29, 8 p.m.

TheatreWorks

Call for Writers: ETC second annual 10-Minute Play Festival, eight 10-minute plays will be performed. www.theatreworks.org, Sat., April 29, 6:30 p.m.

Metropolitan Museum of Art

“Implements of Grandeur,” exhibition of handmade objects including tools and utensils. The museum has commissioned 25 artists to create new work.

www.metmuseum.org, Fri., April 28, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

American Museum of Natural History

“Hungry Planet” and “Human Nature,” exhibitions of photos and videos. www.amnh.org, Fri., April 28, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Museum of the City of New York

“Once Upon a Time in Brooklyn,” exhibition of photos and videos tracing the history of the Brooklyn area. www.mcny.org, Fri., April 28, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Crawford Museum

The PINK PALACE!, www.pinkpalace.org, Fri., April 28, 6-9 p.m.

CBGB

10th Annual Original Art Auction, Over 150 professional artists donate their prize works of original art for auction, featuring live performances, hors d’oeuvres, beverages, all day silent action, and live auction at 6:30 p.m. www.cbgb.org, Fri., April 28, 6-8 p.m.

Other Art Happenings

Theatre of Grandeur, “ Implements of Grandeur,” exhibition of handmade tools by metalworkers throughout the United States including Jack Brubaker, David Court, Dennis Jasko, Seth Gould, Tom Latane, Timothy Miller, and others. www.metalmedicine.org, Sun., April 30, 12-2 p.m.

Stark Pottery Show and Sale

Forking on the River Dinner + Auction

Evening of festivities including dinner by Draper’s Catering and art auction featuring some of the best fine metalwork in the country. Benefiting Metal Museum programming throughout the year. 365 members, 750 nonmembers. Sat., April 29, 6-10 p.m.

Local Veterans’ Art Exhibit

Local veterans and relatives have created a unique collection of paintings for display and auction to help build the first State Veterans Home. Fri., April 28, 6-10 p.m.

Small Shop Saturday

Featuring a weekly local vendor in the tap room. Meet the artist and learn about their craft. Saturdays, 1-4 p.m.

Memphis Theatre Festival

“Dearly Departed”, in the shadow of the historic East Buntyn neighborhood to celebrate art and community. Free. Sat., April 29, 1-7 p.m.

East Buntyn ArtWalk

Featuring regional artists in an open-air art market. Benefiting the East Buntyn neighborhood to celebrate art and community. Free. Sat., April 29, 1-7 p.m.

East Buntyn ArtWalk

January 21 - May 7, 2017

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continued on page 25
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5.4 Frankie Hollie and the Noise
5.11 Aquanet
5.18 Ghost Town Blues Band
5.25 Luke Wade
6.1 Voodoo Gumbo
6.8 Seeing Red
6.15 Crusin’ Heavy

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CALENDAR: APRIL 27 - MAY 3

continued from page 22

ONGOING ART

The Dixon Gallery & Gardens

DANCE

Dance Theater of Harlem
Racially diverse dance artists perform an eclectic repertoire using the language of ballet to celebrate African-American culture. $25-$75. Sat., April 29, 8 p.m., and Sun., April 30, 2 p.m. THE ORPHEUM, 203 S. MAIN (525-3000), WWW.ORPHEUM-MEMPHIS.COM.

Lecture/Speaker

Diabetes Undone
Participants learn to prevent or reverse diabetes, pre-diabetes, and other chronic health conditions through simple lifestyle habits such as nutrition, exercise, and sleep. $80. Through May 25, 6:30-8 p.m. SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH, 4204 JACKSON (731-798-1106).

Road Safety Luncheon:
An Open Discussion About Distracted Driving
In honor of National Distracted Driving Awareness Month and growing issues surrounding distracted driving and traffic safety in the Mid-South with innovative approaches to engage successful programs. Free. Fri., April 28, 12-2 p.m. AT STUDENT ALUMNI CENTER, 403 MADISON (493-2478). HTTPS://CLIPROADSAFETYLUNCHON.EVENTBRITE.COM.

Expos/Sales

Crosstown Concourse Job Fair
Sixty jobs need to be filled. Sat., April 29, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. SEARS CROSSTOWN, N. CLEVELAND AT NORTH PARKWAY, WWW.CROSSTOWNCONCOURSE.COM.

Memphis National College Fair
Attendees will have the opportunity to meet one-on-one with admission representatives. Thurs., April 27, 9-11:30 a.m. MEMPHIS CONVENTION CENTER, 255 N. MAIN (762-8896); WWW.MACAFFAIRS.ORG.

Memphis Made Brewing Company
Locally made goods. Sat., April 29, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

POETRY/SPOKEN WORD

America World Headquarters
DeeDee Mann, witness the third installment of Spliff’s collaboration with Crosstown Arts PechaKucha night as presenters bust out their old diaries from childhood and adolescence and share golden entries. www.crosstownarts.org. Thurs., April 27, 6:30-9:30 p.m. 410 CLEVELAND.

Conferences/Conventions

“I Matter” Conference
Probate Judge Kathleen Gomes and attorneys Ruby Wharton, Deborah Brooks, Robert Donati, and Craig Barnes will discuss legal options that youths with disabilities will have during transition into adulthood. $25. Sat., April 29, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

University of Memphis, University Center (932-2472), WWW.THEARMAGEDDON.COM.

Forging on the River 2017
Metalsmiths and enthusiasts have the opportunity to network, exchange ideas, work collaboratively on projects, and learn from an internationally recognized master blacksmith. $100-$375. Thurs., April 27, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Fri., April 28, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat., April 29, 10 a.m.-9 p.m., and Sun., April 30, 12-5 p.m. METAL MUSEUM, 374 METAL MUSEUM DR. (774-6380), WWW.METALMUSEUM.ORG/FOTR.

Festivals

April in Arlington
Celebrate the town of Arlington with over 90 vendors on site, arts and crafts, and family fun. Sat., April 29, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. HISTORIC DEPOT SQUARE, ARLINGTON, TN.
continued from page 25

Bookstock 2017
Featuring four keynote authors, 40 local authors, book signings, author talks, live music, food trucks, cooking demonstrations, door prizes, face painting, arts and crafts, and more. Free. Sat., April 29, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.


Cajun Festival
Featuring Marcella Simen, Earl Randle, gumbo tasting (vegetarian options will be available), beer tasting, and more, benefiting Saint Patrick Community Outreach Inc. Sat., April 29, noon.

Saint Patrick Community Outreach, 297 South Fourth (943-9024).

The Edge Gets Lit
Alley Party
Celebrate the Floyd Alley renovation between Madison and Monroe with music, dancing, kids zone, art, fireworks, and more. Dogs are welcome to bring their well-behaved humans. Sat., April 29, 12-11 p.m.


Heber Springs Spring Fest 2017
Swing into spring with a weekend stay for the 30th annual Springfest. Free. Fri., April 28, 12-7 p.m.; and Sat., April 29, 9 a.m.-7 p.m.


Lantern Light Festival Memphis
Featuring over 400 lanterns, 400-foot dragon, 30-foot tall panda, and entertainment including acrobats from China and live music, $16-$20. Fri-Sunds, 6 p.m.-midnight through May 7.


Laurelwood Unplugged
Join Memphis musicians Airside, Blind Mississippi Morris, Mighty Souls Brass Band, and Brennan Vines Trio in the courtyard Thurs., 6-8 p.m. Through April 30.


Palestine Festival
Featuring authentic Palestinian cuisine, live music, dance performance (dancing), fashion show, henna and traditional clothing photo booth, along with other cultural activities and vendors. Free. Sat., April 29, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.


SPORTS / FITNESS
35th Annual Memphis in May Triathlon Swim Clinics
One-hour classes that require participants to be able to swim at least 100 yards freestyle non-stop. Danny Fudgen, master swim coach and aquatic director with the Memphis Jewish Community Center, will be the coach. Free Tuesday of every month, 6-7 p.m. Through May 15.

Memphis Jewish Community Center, 6660 Poplar (770-0101), www.pjcm.org.

Get Outside!
Fitness Programs
Multiple options for the whole family to get fit, stay active, and enjoy being in nature, including boot camps, Zumba, dance, yoga, and more. For more information and registration, see website. Ongoing.


Go Apé Treetop Adventure
Course in Shelby Farms Park open for its second season. Ongoing.


Memphis Redbirds Home Games
For more information, visit website. Through May 1.


The Wesbrey Golf Classic
Four-person scramble including lunch, awards, flight contests, and giveaways, benefiting SRVS and honoring the late Dr. Fred Wedebwy, longtime supporter of SRVS. For more information, visit website. $175 Mon., May 1, 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.


MEETINGS
HELP@TNDAY
Free legal clinics and counsel for Tennessee residents. Website for more information including locations and specific dates. Through April 30. www.justiceforalltn.com/HELP@TNDAY.

Just For ToGay:
LGBTQ Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

KIDS
Open Nominations for the 2017 Beat the Odds Awards

PRIZM Camp Registration
Visit website for more information and registration for June Music Camp & International Chamber Music Festival. $375-$780. Through May 15.


Registration for Kidzu Playhouse 2017
Summer Camps
For camp information and registration, see website. $75-$350. Through July 1.


Registration for Memphis College of Art Summer Art Camps

Memphis College of Art, 1930 Poplar (272-5100), www.mca.edu.

Registration for Memphis Public Libraries Summer Camps

Storytime
Tues.-Sat., 11-11:30 a.m.
Through April 30.

Barnes & Noble, 2774 N. Germantown (286-2458).

Registration for Summer Performance Workshop/Call for Paid Interns
For ages 6-18. Participants will have the chance to perform and help create a show. Interns will serve as both actors and teachers. For more information, registration, and performance dates, call, visit website, or email showagon@theatrememphis.org. Through May 1.


SPECIAL EVENTS
12th Annual Trivia Night and Silent Auction
Trivia, silent auction, costume contest, prizes, wine pull, and food and dessert bar benefiting Alzheimer’s & Dementia Services of Memphis, Inc. Sat., April 29, 6 p.m.

Temple Israel, 1376 E. Massey (761-3130).

Amazing Scavenger Hunt
Adventure
Guided from any smartphone, teams see the sights while solving clues, completing challenges, and learning local history. Available 365 days, sunrise to sunset. Use promo MEMPHISFLYER for special discount. Ongoing.


“Back to the Moon for Good”
Fifty years ago, the U.S. was in a heated race to the moon. This program reflects on that legacy and looks to the future, motivated by the Google XPRIZE. $7. Through June 2.

Sharpe Planetarium, Memphis Pink Palace Museum, 3500 Central (982-3482), memphis-palaces.org.

The Black & White Social III
Tickets include three complimentary cocktails and hors d’oeuvres. Black and/or white attire required. $25-50. Sat., April 29, 8 p.m.-1 a.m.
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Free Sat., April 29, 1-10 p.m.
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1409 N. GERMANTOWN PKWY (733-5533).

Peabody Rooftop Party
Meet on the roof for music and fun. $10-$15.
Thursdays, 6-10 p.m. Through Aug. 17.
The Peabody Hotel, 149 Union (529-4000).
WWW.PEABODYHOTEL.COM.

Protect Our Aquifer (and Our Beer)
Enjoy a Wiseacre beer and help support the Sierra Club Chickasaw Group in safeguarding our drinking water in Shelby County. Discuss beer and water. Yard signs and T-shirts available. Thurs., April 27, 5-9 p.m.
Wiseacre Brewery, 2783 Broad.

PuppyUp Memphis Walk
Two-mile walk to promote awareness of canine cancer, raising funds for education, awareness, and research that benefits pets and people. $20 Sun., April 30, 12-4 p.m.
OVERTON PARK, OFF POPULAR (619-2286).
WWW.PUPPYUPWALK.ORG.

FOOD & DRINK EVENTS

2017 Annual Tribute Luncheon
Proceeds benefit Women’s Foundation grant making $125.
Thurs., April 27, 11:30 a.m.-1:15 p.m.
MEMPHIS COOK CONVENTION CENTER, 295 N. MAIN (529-0946), WWW.WFWM.COM.

Beale Street Wine Race
Sun., April 30, 1 p.m.
BEALE STREET, DOWNTOWN MEMPHIS (529-0999).

Breakfast for Dinner: A Benefit for Room in the Inn
Benefitting Memphis-wide network of churches serving people experiencing homelessness. $20. Sat., April 29, 6-9 p.m.
THE GALLOWAY HOUSE, 1015 COOPER ST.
WWW.PEABODYHOTEL.COM.

Forks & Corks
Night of food and live music in the vineyard benefiting Fayette Cares. Wine tastings available or bring your cooler. $35 Sat., April 29, 6-10 p.m.
DE TERRA VINEYARD & WINES OF SOMERVILLE, 605 JAYMERS CAMPGROUND (465-3802 3223), WWW.FAYETTECARES.ORG.

Peabody Master Taster’s Club
$25. First Wednesday of every month, 5:30-7 p.m.
CORNER BAR AT THE PEABODY, 149 UNION (529-4000), WWW.PEABODYMEMPHIS.COM.

Steak n’ Burger
Tues., May 2, 6 p.m.
MAC YACHT CLUB OF MEMPHIS, 5111 SANDERLIN (278-2947), WWW.BIGCM.ORG.

Suds and Buds
Speciality beer of the month, goodie bags, and silent auction benefiting Passion for Pits Rescue. $12 Sat., April 29, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
CELTIC CROSSING, 903 S. COOPER (274-5151).

FILM

Bolshoi Ballet: A Hero of Our Time
Sun., April 30, 12:55 p.m., and Tues., May 2, 7 p.m.
MALCO PARADISO CINEMA, 584 S. MENDENHALL (682-1754), WWW.MALCO.COM.

Indie Wednesday
See independent films at various locations. Wednesdays, 7 p.m. Through May 31.
WWW.INDIEMEMPHIS.COM.

TED Cinema Experience
Sun., April 30, 1 p.m.
BEALE STREET, DOWNTOWN MEMPHIS (529-0999).

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Sun. 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

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BAPTIST

BAPTIST
The Twelve Lives of Samuel Hawley (The Dial Press) is a violent book. It's a book about guns and gun culture, revenge, paranoia, and murder. It's a book about family. The story of a father and daughter, a wife lost too soon, and a grandmother who wants to be nearer to her granddaughter to keep a sense of that lost daughter.

It's these two worlds that make Hannah Tinti's first novel in 10 years so compelling. It is the world we live in today, one consumed by compassion and devotion, anger and violence. Her storyline can be so authentic at times that I had to put the book down and walk away. As the news and social media fed me a steady diet of all that is wrong with our society, I didn't want it from a novel I'd chosen for escape. But I'd go back to it because the pull of the story of Hawley and his daughter, Loo, as they struggle to survive as a team in the world he's made for them is too strong.

Sam works as a collector, traveling the country taking back merchandise or cash from those who have stolen from powerful and corrupt people. That merchandise is collected by any means necessary, most often violently. It's the sort of life that leaves in its wake grudges and vendettas like a map of stars across the night sky.

The structure of the book breaks every other chapter into the story of a bullet in Hawley's life — 12 in all. As a writer, when I first began reading this book, I thought, "Why 12? Why not make it easier on yourself with, say, six bullets?" But Hawley's life is measured by these bullets as they pass through his body. And Hawley passes through his life the same way — messily, violently, bloody. He tears at flesh and the fabric of a decent society as he moves from one job to the next.

He and Loo move from place to place, often at a moment's notice, taking along whatever they can fit in a piece of luggage. There are other ways to measure time — a shampoo bottle, lipstick, a handwritten shopping list, a bathrobe, snapshots. Hawley carries these items of his wife's, long dead now, from place to place, scraps of memory he arranges into a shrine at every stop along the way. This is how Hawley finds his way back to Lily. Hawley's longtime friend and partner in crime tells Loo, "Watches used to be important. When you got your first, it was special. A reminder of the days you had left, ticking away right there on your arm."

Hawley knows from the beginning that his days are numbered, ticking away, and he wants to quit for his daughter's sake. Violence begets violence. But simply retiring isn't an option, and he works backward through time, tracing his wounds to the men who caused them like following the constellations to eradicate any future threat. Tinti writes: "What a mess he'd made, Hawley thought. He wished he could erase his entire life, starting with his father's death and then every step that had led him here to this crap motel room, every bullet, every twisted turn of the road he'd followed — even meeting Lily, even having Loo. Hawley wanted it all gone."

I want to finish by saying that, while Samuel Hawley is violent — and let's make no bones about it, he is a bad dude — his devotion to his daughter is without question. And because he loves his daughter so much, he's raising her to be a strong and independent woman. He may be going about it in the extreme — the book opens with Hawley teaching a 12-year-old Loo how to shoot a rifle — but it's a lesson for all of us: If we love and respect our daughters, we must raise them to resist when society seeks to undermine their strength. Sam gets that, flawed though he may be.
Say you want to grab a nice meal and glass of wine, and your boyfriend wants to watch the game. Or you’re looking for some good music. Or you want to bring the kids along.

Business partners Michael O’Mell, Tyson Bridge, and John Kalb have spent the last four months putting all the right bells in all the right places and all the right whistles in the other right places so that you may do any or all of these things.

The three men purchased the property at 124 GE Patterson, formerly the site of the Double J Smokehouse, back in November and debuted the redesigned spot as The Vault mid-March.

“We were looking to do something, and we love the South Main area. You can tell it’s growing, and they’ll have the new movie theater and hotel coming in,” O’Mell says. “This space became available, and it was the right opportunity at the right time.”

After acquiring the space, which was originally a bank in the ’50s, complete with a still-standing vault, they stripped everything down to its bare bones, even taking out some columns and resupporting the building. They completely redid the kitchen, extended the bar six feet, repainted, and amped up the stage with new lights and new sound.

They installed TVs with their own remotes at every custom-made booth, made available an app to listen to the television on personal devices, installed charging stations along the bar, and offer the only Frost Rail in Memphis — a three-inch trough full of snow-like frost for to keep your beer cold.

And yes, they still have that killer upstairs patio in the back.

But their real secret weapon is the man behind their made-to-order pork rinds, their Cornish Game Hen, their Bacon Wrapped Chicken Roulade, and their Steak and Pommes Frites.

That would be Aaron Winters, of Porcellino’s and Miss Cordelia’s fame.

“I tried to come up with an eclectic menu with roots in Southern cuisine,” Winters, who was classically trained as a butcher in Italy, says.

He brings in produce from Wilson Farms, beef from Claybrook Farms, and catfish from Lakes Catfish.

“We’re so close to the farmers market, they’ll swing by here when they’re done, and I shop off the back of their trucks,” Winters says.

In addition to the entrees mentioned above, he offers a flat breads menu, sandwiches, starters including a daily selection of charcuterie, and an oyster menu.

“We’re getting in some really good oysters from around the country,” Winters says. Plans include hosting crawfish boils during season and pig roasts in the fall, as well as Memphis’ favorite meal — brunch.

“Brunch is forthcoming,” O’Mell says. “We want to make sure we do a few things really well, then add more.”

Look for the building with a silver vault door on the front.

The Vault, 124 GE Patterson, 591-8000, vaultmemphis.com. Open 11 a.m. daily for lunch; dinner 5 to 10 p.m.; late-night menu 10 p.m. to close.

What’s that quote about “The day I got sacked was the best thing that ever happened to me”?

continued on page 32
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LET’S EAT
continued from page 31

Whatever it is, it rings true for Lisa Clay Getske. After working for Houston’s for 14 years, she went on to manage a chain restaurant that, after two years, ended up letting her go “for a less expensive, younger model.” Clay Getske took it upon herself to leverage her experience and do her own thing. That thing has grown into the empire that is Lisa’s Lunchbox.

And in mid-March, the empire spread to the downtown area into the former Tuscany Italian Eatery at 116 S. Front. “It’s fantastic,” she says. “AutoZone is a big customer that’s right across the street, and it’s been fun being down here during all the festivals.”

The move had everything to do with a ServiceMaster devotee, her managing business partner, and a little luck. “At my original location at the Ridgeway Business Center, ServiceMaster is across the street,” Clay Getske says. “My friend works at the ServiceMaster downtown, and he kept saying, ‘Hey, there’s this spot downtown.’”

That spot was Front Street Deli, which didn’t work out for Clay Getske, but thanks to her business partner, Matt Reisinger’s, thirst for water, they found the space at 116 S. Front. “We had the keys to the Front Street Deli, but we hadn’t signed the lease,” Clay Getske says. “They were feeling a little nostalgic, and didn’t want to change the name. When Matt was down there, he went into Tuscany for a bottle of water and got to talking to [owner] Jeremy Martin, and he said, ‘Why don’t you buy this place?’”

Lisa’s Lunchbox specializes in “really good, fresh, real food,” such as her Chicken Club Panini, her “massive” BLT “with real bacon, and we’re not stingy with it,” and her spicy pimento and cheese. She also offers frozen meals to go, which will be included in the new location in May, and breakfast sandwiches and smoothies.

“We go before the beer board this week, and I think that’s something I want to offer downtown for the tourists who are walking around and want something to eat and a beer,” she says.

She also plans on staying open later eventually.

Lisa’s Lunchbox, 116 S. Front, 729-7277, lisaslunchbox.com. Open 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

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It’s Tequila Time!
Grownup Drinks
Low-alcohol beverages: when work and play intersect.

As I’ve “grown up” career-wise, I’ve had to do quite a bit of on-the-job drinking. Of course, I drink for this gig — but I’m talking about my day job, the one that covers the majority of my bills, health insurance, and the like. I’m currently in transition, which has got me thinking about what it means to drink responsibly with coworkers, which is much different than being an ethical drinker at large.

Thankfully, I’ve never gotten smashed and photocopied body parts at a work party, made an untoward pass at a fellow employee, or woken up with any real regrets about how I’ve handled myself. I have, however, had to quickly transition from sitting at my desk to standing at a cocktail party with nothing but lunch in my stomach to pad the alcohol. I still haven’t mastered noshing on passed appetizers while juggling a wine glass and my purse, so I typically just sip one glass of white wine (okay, maybe two) and then excuse myself for dinner elsewhere.

When attending a work event, I’ve learned to pay close attention to company culture. At the end of the 1990s, I worked at a company that regularly rolled kegs into the employee cafeteria on Friday afternoons. Everyone would dutifully go a few rounds and then leave work to enjoy the weekend. I’ve also worked places where I didn’t trust my coworkers or my mouth, so I eschewed drinking and extricated myself from the conversation as quickly as possible. Now, most invitations to imbibe come at nighttime work events or when entertaining out-of-town visitors. On those occasions, I’ve learned to observe my immediate superior and never outpace them. I make it a point to eat before drinking, even if it’s a vending machine snack. I’ve also discovered low-alcohol cocktails, a delicious way to keep your wits and still enjoy a good drink.

Let’s start with what should be the obvious go-to: Campari and soda, made from the Italian liqueur that weighs in at around 20 percent ABV (alcohol by volume). Around since 1880, the distinctive red liqueur is created by infusing fruits and herbs in an alcohol and water blend. In Italy today, you can even buy a premixed Campari Soda, which has a very low ABV of 10 percent. Slightly bitter, Campari is always a sophisticated choice when you need to take it easy on the booze but still want to join in the fun.

Prosecco — Italian sparkling wine — also has a low ABV of under 12.5 percent. Spring and summer are the perfect times to drink it, whether you enjoy a glass on its own or add fruit for a cocktail. When peaches are in season, I always go for a Bellini, named for 15th-century Renaissance painter Giovanni Bellini and first mixed at the legendary Harry’s Bar in Venice, Italy, 72 years ago.

The Basque cocktail Kalimotxo is also easy on your liver. I was first introduced to this drink, a simple mix of equal parts Coca-Cola and cheap red wine, by a Basque guy who arrived in Memphis by way of Boise, Idaho, which has a Basque population some 15,000 strong. The Coke and wine blend makes for an overly sweet but quite sippable cocktail that I like to nurse in a red Solo cup at all-day festivals or sporting events.

Also worth drinking: the unsung work dog of cocktails, vermouth. The low-alcohol white wine, originally a “wormwood wine” devised as a cure for intestinal issues, comes in at about 18 percent ABV and makes for an interesting cocktail base on its own.

Ask your bartender to serve you ginger ale and dry vermouth with a squeeze of lemon. Or order an Addington, a jazz-age cocktail that consists of both sweet and dry vermouth, sparkling water, and an orange twist. Served in a martini glass, it can hold its own against any vodka cocktail. If that’s too fancy for you, go for the Americano. Not the coffee drink, but a cocktail created with equal parts sweet vermouth and Amaro liqueur, served on the rocks in a lowball glass and topped with soda.
In the beginning of *The Lost City of Z*, Percy Fawcett (Charlie Hunnam), an officer in the British Army, gets notice that he is being called from his sleepy post in Ireland to an uncertain mission of exploration in South America. “It will be a grand adventure,” he is told.

Fawcett had experience as a cartographer and had traveled “all around the empire,” sometimes as a spy. Bolivia and Brazil were on the verge of war over a border dispute, so, to keep the peace, the British were sending Fawcett to map out the full extent of the border by finding the source of the Rio Verde. The catch was the “green river” got its name because it ran straight through the heart of the Amazon jungle. He and his team of surveyors were being sent where no man had ever gone before.

Once he’s in country with his team, Corporals Costin (Robert Pattinson) and Manley (Edward Ashley), Fawcett discovers that the part about going where no man has gone before is not strictly true. At best, he’s going where no white man has ever gone before.

Fawcett soon learns the harshness of the jungle. Almost immediately, the confident Englishman starts losing members of his expedition to native arrows, piranhas, and, worst of all, infection and disease. But Fawcett was more stubborn than the jungle, and he finds the idyllic falls where the river begins. While they’re surveying the site, he stumbles across a cache of pottery shards in what should be a trackless forest. He takes the artifacts to be proof the tribesman was telling the truth.

Thus begins an obsession that will last the rest of Fawcett’s life, bringing him fame and fortune but costing him everything. In a raucous meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, he proclaims that the “savages” of the jungle are “made from the same clay” as white men. He will return to the Amazon to find evidence of the ancient lost city, which he calls Z — only he pronounces it “zed,” because he’s English and all.

That the meetings of geographical societies used to be such animated affairs is one of the revelations of James Gray’s film. Another revelation is that Gray has amazing classical chops. Old school film grammar evolved for a reason, to tell complex stories visually with emotional heft. *The Lost City of Z* is a testament to the contributions of masters like David Lean. His visual compositions import information clearly and efficiently while also being quite beautiful in the process.

Other recent obsessive, man-vs.-nature stories, such as Inárritu’s *The Revenant*, are hyper-focused on the details of the task and toll of surviving in the wilderness. Gray, who also wrote the screenplay, lets us know not only the harrowing difficulties Fawcett faces in the jungle, but also the psychological pressures that drive him on.

**Jungle Love**

*The Lost City of Z* is a mesmerizing story of obsession in the Amazon.
FILM REVIEW By Chris McCoy

faced in the jungle, but also the man he was back home. Our hero spends almost as much time with his wife Nina Fawcett (Sienna Miller) in England as he does in the Amazon. Nina is the long-suffering mother of three who keeps the hearth warm through her husband’s long absences. Fawcett is obsessed with finding the lost city but also acutely aware of the emotional toll his obsession has on his family and himself. Gray wants to make Fawcett into T. E. Lawrence — trapped between worlds, driven by impulses he doesn’t fully understand — and Hunnam rises to the occasion as best he can. Peter O’Toole’s Lawrence of Arabia wore his heart on his sleeve, while Hunnam’s Fawcett is a strictly stiff-upper-lip type. The subtext running through the story is the English establishment’s unquestioned philosophy of white supremacy and how that clashes with Fawcett’s observations. The issue comes to a head when World War I breaks out just as the explorer is returning from an unsuccessful expedition, and Fawcett is drafted to lead a battalion into battle. Next to the scenes of industrialized slaughter in the Somme, the kindly cannibals of the Amazon seem pretty civilized. 

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Since spring is the time for renewal and new beginnings, the occasion is ripe for the annual list of words and phrases that I just can’t stand hearing anymore. And I stand behind that statement 110 percent.

Any such list would be derelict without including the annoying phrase of the year: “alternative facts.” Popularized by the vapid Kellyanne Conway, the term can easily be translated as “bullshit.”

So. When asked a question, it seems everyone from pundits to pandits begins their answer with the word “so,” as in: “Explain why are you in jail?” “So, I was running naked through Wal-Mart and got tackled by a security guard.”

This should be acceptable only at the beginning of a joke, i.e., “So, this giraffe walks into a bar and says, ‘The highballs are on me.’”

**There’s no there there.** Nothing to see here folks. Just keep moving.

**Air quotes.** If I see one more goober claw the sky with two fingers on each hand, there’s a chance that I may get violent. Or at least violently sick. Please use your words instead, like “so-called” president or the “alleged” attorney general.

**Nothing burger.** I’ll gladly pay you Tuesday for a hamburger today. No beef, no bun, no condiments, no garnishment.

**No prob./No worries.** This is a phrase popularized by restaurant wait-staff when you ask for something like unsweetened tea. It shouldn’t be a problem if it’s their job.

**Breaking News.** The original sin of all local newscasts. Now, everything is “Breaking News,” even if it’s already broken. A wreck on the interstate is not really “breaking news,” unless it was an oil tanker and the highway’s on fire.

And while we’re at it, a “severe thunderstorm watch” is no reason to preempt Jeopardy! 6:00 a.m. in the morning. An agonizing redundancy. Everyone knows a.m. means morning. Use one or the other, or risk using needless words with ample abundance.

**No-brainer.** This one’s really a no-brainer. Use “foregone conclusion” instead. It makes you sound smarter.

**Cray.** I get it. I just wish my wife would stop using this expression in reference to me.

**Alt-right.** Let’s just call them what they are: Nazis.

**America First.** Speaking of Nazis, this expression was popularized during WWII and became the name of the national, anti-Semitic, isolationist organization whose purpose was to appease Hitler. Dog whistles or ignorance?

**Game-changer.** To have one’s course altered, as in: That bout with syphilis was a real game-changer for Al Capone.

**Non-usage of the consonant “T.”** When did this catch on? Examples: “No you di’nt, Bill Clin’ on,” or, “I have something impor’nt to tell you.” Used by all races and levels of education, this trend is irrita’ng for errbody.

**Baby bump.** Such an unbelievable trivialization of the term “preggers.”

**Make America Great Again.** Ronald Reagan used this slogan in the ‘80s and it still makes me gag. Let’s go ahead and include,

**Bigly, many people say, the liberal media, this I can tell you, classy, and radical Islamic terrorism.**

**The mother of all... and blank “gate.”** We just dropped the mother of all bombs in Afghanistan to retaliate for the mother of all wars in Iraq. At home, Chris Christie gave us “Bridgegate,” and we’re about to enter a phase called “Kremlin-gate.” We’re not even going to mention “Pee-gate.”

**Drop.** As in: Beyonce’s new single will drop this week. Now, even Rachel Maddow is saying, “New legislation drops tomorrow.” And while we’re at it, let’s include the **mic drop.**

**Obama out.** Walk it back and misspoke. These terms will become increasingly commonplace during the tenure of Press Secretary Sean Spicer. They are Washington colloquialisms for “lying.”

**LOL.** Enough already. Stop laughing at your own jokes. And finally: **Bill O’Reilly.** So long, sucker.

Now, let’s take this thing to the next level.

Randy Haspel writes the “Recycled Hippies” blog.
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