Medical cannabis sales are now booming in Arkansas. Can Tennessee be far behind?
$7.77
SENIOR LUNCH
BUFFET

A SUPER DEAL
FOR SENIORS EVERY
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY.
Now any Lucky North Club™ member age 50 and up can get Southland’s all-you-can-eat lunch buffet for just $7.77, every Monday thru Friday, from 11AM to 3:30PM.

UP TO
$30,000
IN GIVEAWAYS
Saturdays in June.
Earn entries daily. Swipe your Lucky North™ Club card beginning at 7PM each Saturday to activate your entries. 10 winners every hour!

Did you read The New York Times story Sunday about Navy pilots who’ve encountered UFOs? Here’s the lead paragraph: “The strange objects … appeared almost daily from the summer of 2014 to March 2015, high in the skies over the East Coast. Navy pilots reported to their superiors that the objects had no visible engine or infra-red exhaust plumes, but that they could reach 30,000 feet and hyperersonic speeds.”

The story quotes six pilots who had encounters with these mysterious objects, and it even links to a video filmed by two Navy pilots that shows incidents of U.S. planes pursuing mysterious flying objects. The video showed objects accelerating to hyper-sonic speed, making sudden stops and instantaneous turns — something beyond the physical limits of a human crew.

After one pilot had a near-collision with one of the UFOs, the pilots began to complain to superiors that something needed to be done, so a system was set up to monitor and record observations of encounters with UFOs.

This story was being widely circulated on social media. Oddly, I saw no one who claimed that the story was “fake news from the failing New York Times.” Maybe that’s because everybody loves these kinds of stories, no matter their politics. I don’t know.

I do know that the Memorial Day weekend was particularly rife with fake news memes, including a photo of former President Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama supposedly taken at a Memorial Day celebration in which Michelle did not have her hand on her heart and had a surly look on her face.

Here’s a sampling of comments: “Disgraceful!” “They are both sh*t.” “Thank God we have a real patriot as president now!”

Of course, there were the usual well-meaning folks who pointed out that the photo had been widely debunked as a photoshop from 2015, but to little avail from the “Obummer” haters, who doubted the legitimacy of the fact-checkers.

Similarly, some anti-Trump folks circulated a meme showing the cost of the president’s golf outings at $102 million and counting. Some doubters claimed that since the president owned his golf resorts and takes no salary, these numbers were bogus. Others claimed that Obama golfed much more than Trump. When folks pointed out that the amount spent on Trump’s golf trips had been researched and validated by numerous legitimate news outlets, the responses was that it was “fake news” from fake news outlets. Of course. This is where we are, America.

With the 2020 election campaign drawing nigh, this sort of misinformation will only increase in frequency and subtlety. See last week’s wide-spread dissemination of an altered video of Speaker Nancy Pelosi, slowed down to make her appear drunk. It was viewed more than two million times on Facebook pages and conservative websites. Hours after it had been debunked, it was shown on Fox News as legit, and later tweeted by the president and by his consigliere Rudy Giuliani.

There was once a time when America had what was called a “fairness doctrine,” in which the FCC required that broadcast media give “equal time” to opposing views. Similarly, some anti-Trump folks circulated a meme showing the cost of the president’s golf outings at $102 million and counting. Some doubters claimed that since the president owned his golf resorts and takes no salary, these numbers were bogus. Others claimed that Obama golfed much more than Trump. When folks pointed out that the amount spent on Trump’s golf trips had been researched and validated by numerous legitimate news outlets, the responses was that it was “fake news” from fake news outlets. Of course. This is where we are, America.

I don’t know how we fix it, but there are countries that are taking real steps to assure that poisonous lies don’t get spread so easily. One example is the tiny nation of Estonia, which suffered a Russian cyber attack on its elections in 2008 (widely seen as a dress rehearsal for later, more ambitious cyber-meddling). Estonia instituted a national cyber-security strategy (ENISA), which consisted of a basic reboot of its election systems, heightened security measures for banks, utilities, and other high-risk targets, and a massive public information campaign designed to help Estonians become more cyber-literate, better able to spot mischief and misinformation masquerading as truth.

It’s a subject that needs to be addressed as soon as possible. Until then, America. The Wild West, where anything goes, and the truth is just the latest clever meme.

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It’s a subject that needs to be addressed as soon as possible. Until then, America. The Wild West, where anything goes, and the truth is just the latest clever meme.
**POLITICAL PONY**

Memphis’ strip club scene has always twerked to the beat of a different drum machine.

But if things go according to plan, The Pony will soon be hosting Roger Stone. He’s a conservative consultant, strategist, and agent provocateur who worked on the presidential campaigns of Richard Nixon, Ronald Reagan, and Donald Trump, more than earning his reputation as the Dark Lord of the Right.

According to various reports, Stone has been making appearances at strip clubs to fund his legal defense against a seven-count federal indictment stemming from the Robert Mueller investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election. The Pony visit would find Stone judging a stripper contest scheduled for June 5th-7th.

This isn’t the first time The Pony has courted a more political crowd. Almost a year ago, top-shelf porn star and occasional libertarian candidate Stormy Daniels visited Memphis on her Make America Horny Again tour. The controversy around Daniels’ affair with President Donald Trump and the $130,000 in hush money she was paid not to disclose it had already blown up in the media. The Pony advertised the show by changing their sign to read, “You Can’t Trump Us.”

**NEVERENDING ELVIS**

Could this be the Game of Thrones sequel we haven’t been waiting for? Dakota Striplin, a contestant on “The Voice Australia,” just suggested that he — maybe, possibly — could be a secret grandson to the King of Rock and Roll, Elvis Presley.

The only evidence seems to be that Striplin’s grandmother met Elvis in Hawaii and was very upset when he died.

*By Chris Davis. Email him at davis@memphisflyer.com.*
Bucking the Ban

Group fears Tennessee moving toward an abortion ban.

Tennessee came close to being the 17th state to pass legislation this year either placing greater restrictions on abortion or effectively banning the procedure completely.

About 40 pro-choice advocates rallied here last week against those recently passed bans.

Ashley Coffield, president of Planned Parenthood for the Greater Memphis Region, said last week that 73 percent of Americans oppose banning abortion, and “we’re out here today to raise up their voices and tell the nation that we won’t stand for it.

“In Tennessee, we have Planned Parenthood and other organizations that offer abortion, and that’s a great thing,” Coffield said. “But we are under attack from our legislature right now. It’s worse than it’s ever been.”

Coffield said the Tennessee legislature was close to passing an outright abortion ban this year, but that measure failed in the state Senate. That legislation is slated to be discussed during the legislature’s summer session, meaning it could return next year.

Tennessee did, however, pass a law that would criminalize abortion in the state if the U.S. Supreme Court’s 1973 Roe v. Wade decision is overturned. That law, the Human Life Protection Act, would ban abortions except “when an abortion is necessary to prevent death” or “substantial and irreversible impairment of major bodily function.”

If Roe v. Wade is overturned, the law would make it a felony offense for doctors to perform abortions. Under the law, women seeking abortions would not be prosecuted.

“The fight is far from over in Tennessee,” Coffield said. “Our rights are at risk like they’ve never been before and this is a coordinated attack nationwide to get a case to the Supreme Court to overturn Roe v. Wade.”

Coffield said abortion is basic health care for women and making abortion illegal won’t stop abortions: “Abortion will just be unsafe, and women will die.”

Currently, in Tennessee abortion is legal throughout the first 20 weeks of a woman’s pregnancy. However, the law places restrictions and regulations on clinics that offer abortion and women seeking the procedure, according to Holly Calvasina, director of development and communications for Choices.

One of those regulations is the 48-hour waiting period. Calvasina said. Women seeking an abortion must make an appointment to see a physician on two different occasions at least 48 hours apart. According to the law, this is to “reduce coerced abortions and to allow time to carefully consider the information and resources provided by informed consent provisions.”

Calvasina said this makes abortions more expensive because women must pay for two doctor’s visits.

Shelby County Commissioner Tami Sawyer, who sits on the Planned Parenthood board here, was also at the rally last week, speaking against abortion bans.

“It was more important for me to be here with you on the ground to say ‘this won’t fly for us,’” Sawyer said. “I know personally what it means to be able to make decisions about your body. No one should be able to tell anyone what they can do with their life and their future.”
POLITICS By Jackson Baker

Council Races: First Look

As petitions begin to be pulled, several races come into focus; Memphis loses the gallant Ralph White.

Here’s how things are shaping up after candidates started pulling petitions last week for Memphis City Council races:

DISTRICT 1: The much-mentioned “people’s choice” aspirant (as she was dubbed by her thwarted supporters for a District 1 vacancy last year) is Rhonda Logan, the activist who now has a chance to prove the validity of that appellation; she faces a serious obstacle, though, in Sherman Greer, an experienced governmental hand who served as an aide for 9th District Congressmen Harold Ford Jr. and Steve Cohen, and who ultimately got the appointment nod from the council.

A third candidate in District 1, not so well known, is Tierra Holloway, whose family name, coincidentally, is the same as that of Logan’s birth family.

DISTRICT 2: So far, incumbent Frank Colvett seems to have this district all to himself.

DISTRICT 3: Incumbent Patrice Robinson has at this point drawn a single challenger, Joe P. Washington.

DISTRICT 4: Jamita Swearengin, the incumbent, and the daughter of an influential and well-remembered African-American jurist, is in good shape against potential challengers Nikkous Crump, Rodney A. Muhammad, and Britney Thornton, the latter of whom has some experience in city affairs and a modicum of support.

DISTRICT 5: Incumbent Worth Morgan, well-financed and regarded as able, should have an easy time of it against his only possible opponent so far, George D. Summers.

DISTRICT 6: This has been a seat held by members of the extended Ford family from time immemorial, and it is highly likely that Edmund Ford Sr., who formerly held the seat and seeks a return to it, will triumph over a bevy of would-be challengers: Davin D. Clemons, Justin J. Ford (who has pulled petitions in several races and is unlikely to persevere against his uncle), Larry Hunter, Theryn C. Bond (well known as a protester in several City Hall issues), Jaques Hamilton, and Paul S. Brown.

DISTRICT 7: No council incumbent has aroused the public animosity that the headstrong and oft heavy-handed Berlin F. Boyd has, but few have buffered themselves with as much influential business support, either. That makes things tough for his challengers, who range from his best-known potential foe, Thurston Smith, to such others as Catrina L. Smith, Jerred Price, Larry Springfield, and Michaly R.C.S Easter-Thomas.

Ralph White was a marvelous preacher.

… He was a gracious, compassionate, thoughtful man who fully deserved to win any or all of the electoral positions he ran for.

SUPER DISTRICT 8, POSITION 1: Though, as of last week, she had not yet picked up a petition, District 6 incumbent Gerre Currie is expected to run for this seat, and to do so as a favorite. Those who had picked up early petitions for the seat include J.B. Smiley Jr., an on-the-move activist with decent support; Hanalei Harris; and three pullers of multiple petitions, the aforementioned Justin J. Ford, as well as Pearl Eva Walker and Roderic Ford (who, his surname notwithstanding, is not a member of the extended political clan).

SUPER DISTRICT 8, POSITION 2: Pulling petitions so far have been Craig Littles, Frank W. Johnson, and the aforementioned Justin J. Ford, Pearl Eva Walker, and Roderic Ford. The incumbent is Cheyenne Johnson, who is expected to prevail.

SUPER DISTRICT 8, POSITION 3: Incumbent Martavis Jones has this one all the way against the ubiquitous Roderic Ford.

SUPER DISTRICT 9, POSITION 1: This race is shaping up as a three-way, pitting Erika Sugarmon, a runner-up in last year’s special election for District 9, Position 2, against two
POLITICS

continued from page 7

well-backed candidates, University of Memphis development specialist Cody Fletcher and developer ChaseCarlisle, neither of whom had picked up their petitions as of last week. Sugarmon is the daughter of the late revered African-American legal icon Russell Sugarmon. Other petition pullers are Mauricio Calvo, a multiple puller who will have significant Latino support for whichever race he sticks with, and Jerome Williams Sr.

SUPER DISTRICT 9, POSITION 2:
Calvo has pulled here as well, as has Samuel Goff, a candidate last year for a Shelby County Commission post. Both are probably wasting their time against incumbent Ford Canale, who as of last week had not yet pulled.

SUPER DISTRICT 9, POSITION 3:
Calvo again, along with one Tyrone Franklin, but Jeff Warren, a former Memphis School Board member who has already raised $100,000 and has across-the-board support, is the clear favorite.

NEXT WEEK: An early look at the races for Mayor, City Court Clerk, and three municipal judgeships.

Rev. Ralph White
We learned over the weekend that Rev. Ralph White died while conducting a funeral Saturday afternoon. It is surely no disservice to observe that Pastor White — Ralph, as he was known to so many of his friends across all sorts of civic and social and racial and political lines — died in the saddle, as it were, officiating in an ultimate godly act at the church. Bloomfield Full Gospel Baptist Church, that he had made a haven for righteousness, in more ways than one.

Ralph White was a marvelous preacher and, in his prime, a superlative athlete and singer. He was a gracious, compassionate, thoughtful man who fully deserved to win any or all of the electoral positions he ran for. Ironically, it was his large-minded determination to serve the total community rather than to kowtow to this or that influential faction that may have prevented his winning a public office.

It is a shame he did not get to serve in that way, but he managed to act on behalf of the community — and, again, that’s all of us — in many other ways, through church enterprises and civic groups. A recent act of service was his tenure as chair and then, as illness hobbled him, vice chair of the city’s Civilian Law Enforcement Review Board (CLERB) — perfect casting for this preeminently fair-minded man. We’ll all miss him.

CommenTary by Greg Cravens

Journey to the past.

Anastasia
THE NEW BROADWAY MUSICAL
JUNE 4 - 9, 2019
ORPHEUM THEATRE
TICKETS AT ORPHEUM-MEMPHIS.COM

The New Four Horsemen...
MEDICAL CANNABIS SALES ARE NOW BOOMING IN ARKANSAS. CAN TENNESSEE BE FAR BEHIND?

COVER STORY BY TOBY SELLS

I N YOUR MIND, FEEL THE WEIGHT OF A FROZEN THANKSGIVING TURKEY, SAY, A 10-POUNDER.

Imagine carrying five of them. Now, imagine it’s not frozen turkeys but marijuana.

Whoa, dude. Trippy. Sounds like some stoned fantasy wafting out of a freshman dorm.

But 50 pounds of legal cannabis was a reality — a legal reality — in Arkansas two weeks ago. Patients drove hours to line up at the state’s first two cannabis dispensaries in Hot Springs on Friday, May 10th. A week later (at the close of business the following Saturday, May 18th), 52 pounds of medical marijuana had been sold.

The Arkansas Department of Finance & Administration doesn’t track specific patient numbers. Each sale is tracked by weight and individual cannabis strains purchased. So, if one patient buys an ounce of cannabis — a half-ounce of Banana Kush for anxiety and the other half in Pineapple Trainwreck for depression — state accountants consider that two transactions.

So, in that first week, Doctor’s Orders sold a total of 24.5 pounds of medical marijuana through 2,171 transactions. Green Springs Medical missed the first two days of sales, but from Sunday to Saturday, the company sold 27.5 pounds of medical marijuana in 2,616 transactions, according to state figures. So, totals were 52 pounds sold in 4,787 transactions.

Marijuana prices at both stores are $15 per gram. State data said individual receipts averaged about $79. In that first week, medical cannabis sales in Arkansas were $353,802. The figure does not include Hot Spring’s 9.5-percent sales tax and a 4-percent medical cannabis tax. With those numbers included, medical cannabis in Arkansas added about $47,763 to state and local tax coffers in one week.

Consider these figures as only the very beginning of a burgeoning cannabis business across the state of Arkansas. Look west from the top of the Pyramid and you’ll be able to watch that business boom right across the river from Memphis.

On the western Arkansas border, a cannabis boom is also happening in Oklahoma. Voters there approved medical cannabis last summer. Two months later — greased lightning for a state bureaucracy — the Sooner State’s medical cannabis program was up and running.

According to a story in CannabisNow, an online news magazine, “Medical marijuana is literally too popular for Oklahoma to handle.” The story describes a glut of patients — way more than state officials expected — and first-month sales receipts of more than $1 million.

If your driver’s license was issued in Tennessee, you’re out of luck if you want to legally join the party, er, get a prescription. You can’t go to Hot Springs or Fort Smith and buy any of that Banana Kush or Pineapple Trainwreck (or Grandaddy Purple, Buddha Kush, or Alaskan Thunder Fuck, for that matter).

State lawmakers in Tennessee just can’t quite pull the trigger on a medical cannabis program. Probably because, y’know, Jesus. But they came close this year — close enough to give a pretty detailed look at what Tennessee residents could possibly expect … someday.

We’ll get to that later. For now, let’s continued on page 10
look briefly back at just how those Arkansas patients got to stand in that line and buy cannabis in broad daylight with no fear of the cops.

A Long Shot
Initially, few thought medical marijuana legislation had a shot in hell in Arkansas. For one thing, the Natural State is very religious: 77 percent of Arkansans believe in God, and 79 percent of those are Christians, according to a recent survey by the Pew Research Center.

So, it was no surprise that social-conservative groups took a strong negative stand when medical cannabis was first on the ballot in Arkansas in 2012. The Family Council, a conservative think tank based in Little Rock, launched a multi-pronged attack against the measure, calling it a “backdoor effort to legalize marijuana across the state of Arkansas.”

Groups fought the 2012 measure all the way to the Arkansas Supreme Court, which ruled in September (just before the November vote) that the marijuana measure could be placed on the ballot. The 2012 measure failed at the ballot box, but only by a slim 49 percent/51 percent margin, which gave hope to cannabis proponents.

The cannabis question simmered in the state for four years. Then, in 2016, a flurry of lawsuits, two competing ballot initiatives, think pieces, op-eds, court rulings, political wrangling, and a lot of general hand-wringing produced an initiative that went on Arkansas’ November ballot, the same one in which state voters mostly pulled the lever for Donald Trump for president.

Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson, who led the federal Drug Enforcement Agency under President George W. Bush, opposed any cannabis-legalizing legislation in his state. He said it was “not best for patients” and that the U.S. Food & Drug Administration — not Arkansas voters — should decide. “We don’t vote on cancer cures, and we should not set a new pattern of determining what is good medicine at the ballot box,” Hutchinson said at the time.

Still, there was plenty of support for medical cannabis. The Arkansas Medical Marijuana Association (AMMA) was established to organize legislative efforts. Patient groups, such as Arkansans for Passionate Care, provided patient stories to extoll the virtues of cannabis in pain management and as an effective alternative to opioids.

In the end, voters approved the Arkansas Medical Marijuana Amendment of 2016 by another narrow margin: 53 percent for; 47 percent opposed. The margin was wider in Crittenden County, right across the river in West Memphis, where 61 percent of voters approved the measure.

Hutchinson, the former drug czar, said in January that “I never dreamed I would be governor with the responsibility” of implementing a medical cannabis program. But the voters approved it, he said, and “I am committed to making it work.”

But Arkansas policy makers slow-rolled the entire process. Unlike Oklahoma’s lickety-split two-month timetable, Arkansas lawmakers met and wrung hands over medical marijuana for two and a half years. Hutchinson said they “took the time to get this just right” and noted that a state judge stopped the implementation process altogether for awhile.

The Arkansas Medical Marijuana Commission divided the state into eight zones and determined that each zone would get four dispensaries, a total of 32. The commission hired Boston-based Public Consulting Group to score the 200 applications the state received from companies interested in opening dispensaries. Results were posted in December 2018, and licenses were issued in January 2019.

Companies could file applications in more than one zone. If that company scored in the top four of any zone, it would get an application, but could only run a dispensary in one zone. So, applications from other, lower-scoring companies would move up in consideration when companies left certain zones.

Such was the case in Zone 3, the section of northeastern Arkansas just across the river from Memphis. There, two companies — Valentine Holdings and Grassroots OPCO — left consideration in Zone 3 to pursue applications elsewhere, according to the Arkansas Times. The four companies who got dispensary rights in Zone 3 are THC Rx Inc. (West Memphis), Delta Cannabis Co. (West Memphis), Comprehensive Care Group (West Memphis), and NEA Full Spectrum (Rector).

Swimming in Marijuana
That’s right. West Memphis (population 24,860) could soon have three cannabis dispensaries. That’s no small feat when you consider that Little Rock, the state’s most populous city (population 198,606) is only approved for two dispensaries.

But before West Memphians get their hands on AK-47, Bubba Kush, or White Widow for back pain, the dispensaries must pass an inspection by the marijuana commission. And before that, they need to get built.

I wanted to see some of these dispensaries for myself, at least where they soon may exist. I figured I’d come across buildings alive with workers installing shelves, hanging lights, or cleaning up a parking lot.

I followed the commission-given...
Some individuals experience the following benefits* with use of quality CBD products like SunMed:

- Pain & Inflammation Relief
- Reduce Nausea & Anxiety
- Lower Incidence of Diabetes
- Relief From Seizures & Other Neurological Disorders
- Promote Cardiovascular Health
- Cancer Fighting Properties
- Anti-psychotic Effects

*These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. Products are not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease. Consult your physician before use. For use by adults 18+.
“We see just about every demographic and age group — from 20-year-olds to folks in their 70s,” Geiser says. “They claim it works for just about everything. If something’s wrong, put some CBD on it.”

The Broom Closet on South Main is primarily a magic and metaphysical shop — think candles, herbs, and altar tools. But below the spooky posters of witches and devils, you’ll find colorful bags of fruit gummies, honey straws, and lollipops. But they’re not for kids. They’re CBD products.

“Our clientele is very much into conscious, holistic living, so it fits with what we do,” says Stephen Guenther, who owns The Broom Closet with his wife, Emily. “Everyone is getting into [CBD products], though, from major department store chains to makeup companies. You can put CBD on topically, and I saw the other day where they now have CBD lube.”

If you’ve visited any cannabis-legal states, you’ve surely seen upscale dispensaries that look like they were decorated by Gwyneth Paltrow. That’s kind of what the proprietors of Ounce of Hope, a new CBD shop, were going for when they opened the shop next to the I Love Juice Bar on Cooper last month.

Store owner Collin Bercier describes the space as an “upscale apothecary.” Bercier says sales have outperformed projections, and if there are people living with chronic pain, cancer, MS, PTSD, and more, there is a market for medical cannabis.

“Ounce of Hope doesn’t currently sell medical cannabis, but the impressive sales of our CBD products indicate a large appetite for alternative, natural solutions,” Bercier says. “Plus, the medical cannabis legislation that just passed in Arkansas demonstrates what’s possible in the South. Tennesseans are becoming even more vocal and expressing the need for similar legislation.”

For the time being, however, Tennesseans will just have to wait and hope — and watch the smoke rise just across the Mississippi.
memphis’ sports legends will soon have a Hall of Fame all their own. Last Wednesday, the Memphis Sports Council announced the Bicentennial Class of the Memphis Sports Hall of Fame. The inaugural class includes 22 members — six of them deceased — and will be featured in the Memphis Sports Hall of Fame exhibition space on the third floor of AutoZone Park. There are three categories under which candidates could be considered. Athletes must be five years removed from competing in their sport. Coaches must be five years removed from competing, or over 50. And contributors include administrators, philanthropists, trainers, or members of the media.

Here are the members of the Memphis Sports HOF inaugural class:

- Betty Booker-Parks: Record-setting basketball player at Memphis State.
- Isaac Bruce: First Memphis Tiger football player to accumulate 1,000 receiving yards in a single season. His 15,208 receiving yards rank fifth in NFL history.
- Bill Dance: Nationally renowned bass fisherman and TV personality.
- Billy Dunavant: Founder of The Racquet Club of Memphis and key player in attracting professional tennis to venue. Owner of Memphis Showboats.
- Avron Fogelman: Owner of the Memphis Chicks for 20 years. Part-owner of Kansas City Royals. President of ABA’s Memphis Pros.
- Anfernee “Penny” Hardaway: All-American at Memphis State, third pick in 1993 NBA draft, two-time first-team All-NBA with Orlando Magic, member of the 1996 gold-medalist U.S. Olympic team. Current coach at U of M.
- Claude Humphrey: Star defensive end with the Atlanta Falcons and Philadelphia Eagles. Twice named All-Pro and accumulated more than 100 sacks. Member of Pro Football Hall of Fame.
- Jerry Johnson: Won more than 800 games over 46 seasons as basketball coach at LeMoyne-Owen College. Led Magicians to 1975 NCAA Division III national championship.
- George Lapides: Editor and columnist at the Memphis Press-Scimitar, longtime radio host and TV sports editor.
- Keith Lee: All-American for Tiger team that reached the NCAA tournament’s Sweet 16 four straight years (1982-85). Tops Tiger charts in career points (2,408) and rebounds (1,336).
- Vernell Mathis: One of the top pitchers in the Negro Leagues. Played nine years for Memphis Red Sox and beat the legendary Satchel Paige three times.
- Tim McCarver: Baseball and football star at CBHS, played for three World Series teams with the St. Louis Cardinals, earning championships in 1964 and 1967. Renowned TV analyst.
- Nikki McCray-Penson: Star basketball player at Collierville High School; All-American at the University of Tennessee. Won gold medals with U.S. Olympic team in 1996 and 2000. Played nine seasons in the WNBA.
- Cary Middlecoff: All-America golfer at Ole Miss (1939). Won 40 PGA tournaments, including the 1955 Masters and two U.S. Opens.
- Cindy Parlow: Star soccer player at Germantown High and University of North Carolina. Member of 1999 World Cup-champion U.S. soccer team.
- Ronnie Robinson: Teammate of Finch at Melrose High School and Memphis State, where “the Big Cat” helped Tigers reach the 1973 Final Four.
- Verties Sails: Won more than 700 games over 33 years as basketball coach at Shelby State Community College.
- Melanie Smith Taylor: Won gold medal in show jumping at 1984 Olympics. One of only two to win Triple Crown of show jumping.
steppin’ out
We Recommend: Culture, News + Reviews

Racer  By Chris Davis

Things are going to get loud and fast this SATURDAY, SATURDAY, SATURDAY at the Memphis International Raceway, when all those stock car engines crank up for the NASCAR K&B Pro Series, Memphis 150.

Spokesperson Ryan Perezluha describes the K&R Pro Series as “the minor leagues” of NASCAR. “It’s where all the rising stars get their start. This is where they start making a name for themselves on the national level,” he says, rattling off up-and-coming speedsters like Brittney Zamora, who sped off with Washington State’s Rookie of the Year award in NASCAR’s Whelen All-American Series, and Max McLaughlin, the son of NASCAR Xfinity Series racer Mike McLaughlin.

As sports go, NASCAR is extremely fan engagement-forward. Autograph sessions and photo opportunities are just part of the event. “So, unless you go to a football game or basketball game or Grizzlies game, you don’t really get access like you do with NASCAR,” Perezluha says. “You have an opportunity to meet the drivers before the race even starts and take pictures with them right next to where they’re about to be racing just a couple of minutes later.”

VIP parking and tailgating areas come with access to games like corn hole and skee-ball, and there is a kid zone with bounce houses and a water slide.

NASCAR K&N PRO SERIES, MEMPHIS 150, SATURDAY, JUNE 1ST, MEMPHIS INTERNATIONAL RACEWAY, ADULT GENERAL ADMISSION TICKETS: $25, CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER: $5, NASCAR PIT PASS: $50, MILITARY/ VETERANS/ FIRST RESPONDER TICKETS: $10 OFF AT THE GATE WITH ID

Anastasia brings romance and mystery to The Orpheum. Calendar, p. 20

Mary Gazd and Her Gaggle of Drags get their glam on at Bar DKDC. Bar Report, p. 25

THURSDAY May 30

Memphis Italian Festival
Marquette Park, 4 p.m., $10
Huge annual festival celebrating Italian culture. We’re talking bocce ball, multiple cooking contests, live music, and more. Through Saturday.

Whiskey Tasting
Celtic Crossing, 6 p.m., $75
Whiskey dinner featuring Rick Edwards, a master of Scotch (!). Edwards will pour some of his favorite whiskeys.

Botanical Bars
Memphis Botanic Garden, 6-8 p.m., $40
Tonight’s theme will be “Herbal Highballs,” featuring all sorts of cocktails enhanced with herbs like lavender and mint.

FRIDAY May 31

Sound Observations
Green Room, Crosstown Arts, 7:30 p.m., $15
A performance by Nadah El Shazly, part of a series presented by Crosstown Arts and Sonosphere.

Goner 25 Weekend
B-Side, 9 p.m., $10
Three days of rock-and-roll! Tonight opens with a show by Jack Oblivian Gang, Mrs. Jeffrey Evans with Ross Johnson, and Richard James.

SATURDAY June 1

REO Speedwagon
Horseshoe Casino, 8 p.m., $105
Instead you lay still in the grass all coiled up and hissing ... You know you’re singing it. REO, playing tonight. Be there.

Forks & Corks
De Terra Vineyard & Wines of Somerville (605 Joyner Campgrounds), 6 p.m., $40
A fund-raiser for Fayette Cares, which deals with homelessness and domestic abuse.

Bobby Blue Bland Blues Music Festival
Long Road Cider Company (9053 Barret in Barterville), 5-9 p.m.
An evening of music in honor of blues great Bobby Blue Bland, with members of the Bland family, live music, food, and more.

We Need You! Period.
Shady Grove Presbyterian Church, 2-4 p.m.
Volunteers pack “period packs,” menstrual products for those in need. Volunteers are encouraged to collect products or bring their own for donation.
Speed!
By Chris Davis

This isn’t a scouting story. It’s about grown, beer-drinking men and women who’ve united to transform a cherished childhood memory into what might just be the greatest bar game to arise since billiards and darts — pine block car racing. But the dreams of speed and splinters started with the memory of being Cub Scouts, carving blocks of wood into hot rods and dragsters and racing them down a four-lane, 32-foot track to see whose derby “car” was fastest. The memory and joy was reawakened when the grown-ups had kids of their own and helped them build their model cars to race against other scouts. After all, why should kids have all the fun?

MidSouth Derby and Ales is a recreation of the childhood race experience but modified for adults. The first race brought out 20 competitors to show off vintage and newly carved pine cars that can weigh no more than five ounces. The second race promises to liven things up a bit with “outlaw races,” allowing competitors to trick their cars in ways young scouts might only dream of.

“That’s where we bend the rules,” Derby and Ales co-founder Christopher Bryan says. “The models can be bigger and modified with electronics.

“I’ve seen drone engines on them,” Bryan says. “I’ve seen CO2 cartridges and computer fans. I’m building one right now that’s beyond the five-ounce limit because the heavier they are, the better they race.”

The next adults-only race is scheduled for June 6th at Meddlesome Brewing Company. Details for racers and fans can be found at derbyandales.com.

MIDSOUTH DERBY AND ALES RACE AT MEDDLESOME BREWING CO., THURSDAY, JUNE 6TH. CAR CHECK-IN IS 7-7:45 P.M., AND RACES START AT 8 P.M. FREE. DERBYANDALES.COM.

The graduates — Beanie Feldstein (left) and Kaitlyn Dever star in Booksmart, the new film from Olivia Wilde.

Film, p. 26

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUNDAY June 2</th>
<th>TUESDAY June 4</th>
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| **Toy and Model Train Show**  
St. George’s Episcopal Church,  
9 a.m. - 2 p.m., $5  
Tons of toy trains on display, plus door prizes, O-gauge trains and accessories, and more. | **Anastasia**  
The Orpheum, 7:30 p.m., $25-$125  
Musical based on the animated feature about a woman who believes herself to be royalty. |
| **The Hodgetwins**  
Hallaron Centre, 8 p.m., $25-$50  
YouTube stars take the stage for a night of comedy. | **Tom Graves**  
Novel, 6 p.m.  
Local author and publisher Tom Graves signs and discusses his memoir White Boy, which covers tricky racial ground. |
| **Outdoors Inc. Canoe & Kayak Race**  
Greenbelt Park, 10 a.m.  
Annual kayak race with live music and park clean-up afterward. | **Kafe Kirk**  
Crosstown Theater, 6 p.m., $45  
Kortland and Kameron Whalum join Kirk Whalum in this ongoing jazz series. |

**AT THE PINK PALACE**

**FAB FRIDAYS**

**FRIDAY, MAY 31**

Laser Light Shows  
At the Autozone Dome Planetarium  
7 PM  
Laser Tribute  
8 PM  
Genesis  
9 PM  
LED Zeppelin

**Beer, Wine & Eats For Sale!**

Museum closes at 5pm, reopens at 6pm.  
901.636.2362  
WWW.MEMPHISMUSEUMS.ORG  
3050 Central Avenue / Memphis

**PINK PALACE**  
Family of Museums  
Lively Learning For All!
MEMPHIS ‘69

A new film offers a rare look at Memphis counterculture.

Memphis Birthday Blues Festival,” read the banner at the band shell in Overton Park in a recent concert film. It could well be another event tied to the bicentennial, but the texture of the film footage gives the date away. This is from the city’s sesquicentennial — 50 years ago.

Of course, the viewer already knows this, having begun the film with a journey up from the Mississippi Delta, cars whizzing by as WDIA announces that weekend’s main event: the fourth annual Memphis Country Blues Festival. And from those first few moments, the film offers total immersion in the world of a half-century ago.

Watching Memphis ’69, which screens at Crosstown Arts on June 7th (the very date on which the festival was held), is a bit like gazing upon some freshly unearthed treasure, a moment eulogized in decades’ worth of music history, captured in amber. Stanley Booth has written eloquently of the festivals (most recently, in a chapter of his new book), as has Robert Gordon in his essential tome, It Came from Memphis, and it’s a tale both inspirational and cautionary.

First staged in 1966 by a rag-tag group of beats and bohemians that included Lee Baker, Jimmy Crosthwait, Jim Dickinson, and Sid Selvidge (whose work inspired these ne’er-do-wells. From there, the festival gained a higher profile each year, and a recording of the 1968 event was released as an album on London Records. By 1969, as Gordon writes, there was “a struggle for ownership of the event between the hippies and the city government” that lent a bitter aftertaste to the memories of many of the original organizers. And yet, by then expanded to three days, that last festival featured many of the same blues legends that were honored in 1966, including a 106-year-old Nathan Beaugar, making this new film a remarkable thing to behold.

“It’s an absolute miracle that the footage ever saw the light of day,” says Bruce Watson, co-owner of Fat Possum Records and co-producer of the film. During a meeting between Watson and Gene Rosenthal (owner of the ’60s label Adelphi Records) about field recordings Rosenthal had made in Memphis in 1968, Rosenthal casually mentioned, “Yeah, I don’t know if you’re interested, but I recorded the 1969 Memphis Country Blues Festival, and I have the footage and audiotapes in my basement.” Watson, having read about the festival for years, was very much interested and arranged to buy the rights. (He also plans to release a three-EP soundtrack from the film later this year.)

“There are probably 14 or 15 hours of film and audio,” Watson says. “The footage is remarkably good for sitting in his basement for 50 years. Some of it syncs up, some of it doesn’t. The audio engineer was tripping on acid, so the audio is kind of hit and miss. The solo performances with the blues guys sound pretty good, but when you start getting Johnny Winter and Moloch and that stuff, it’s really overdriven.”

After organizing the sprawling footage, Watson sought out the aid of Joe and Lisa LaMattina, a Los Angeles-based couple who have had a hand in many music documentaries. “When we saw the footage, we were like, ‘We have to make this movie,’” Joe says. “Joe says, “Now the two, along with Watson and consultant Robert Gordon, have crafted a total immersion in that fabled era. And while casual viewers may believe they are seeing nearly raw footage, full of sprocket holes and jump cuts from backstage, it’s actually a carefully curated experience. “One of the things we wanted to do,” Joe says, “was to edit the movie as if it were made in 1969, so it’s not a technique-heavy movie.”

Despite being a festival staged at the city’s behest, there was still plenty of countercultural influence: The local Jefferson Street Jug Band is joined by John Fahey and Robert Palmer for the anti-war “I-Feel-Like-I’m-Fixin’-to-Die Rag.” It’s all summed up by the banter of one emcee, who announces, “We don’t know what the heat says, but it’s cool to dance.”
On this special evening, Night at the Lorraine celebrates the power of connection, purpose and history in one place – The Lorraine Motel. An evening filled with rich food, lively dancing and great music of yesterday and today.

GENERAL TICKETS $100 | VIP $175

TICKETS >> NIGHTATTHELORRAINE.ORG

With Support from Title Sponsor Presented by

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PREVENT OPIOID OVERDOSE CARRY NARCAN
(Narcan provided at no cost)

Free Individual and Agency trainings are available

To schedule training, please call:
Jill Carney (901) 484-2852
Josh Weil (901) 484-1649

If you need help, support, or referral to treatment, please call Lincoln Coffman (901) 289-9706

This project is funded under a Grant Contract with the State of Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

Bringing Your Good Dancin’ Shoes

JUNE 8 | 7-11PM

On this special evening, Night at the Lorraine celebrates the power of connection, purpose and history in one place – The Lorraine Motel. An evening filled with rich food, lively dancing and great music of yesterday and today.

GENERAL TICKETS $100 | VIP $175

TICKETS >> NIGHTATTHELORRAINE.ORG

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Pure, thoughtfully sourced CBD products offering individualized wellness through empowerment and knowledge.
### After Dark: Live Music Schedule May 30 - June 5

#### BEALE STREET

- **Alfred’s**
  - 197 BEALE 525-3711
  - Gary Hardy & Memphis 2
  - Thursdays-Saturdays, 8-9 p.m.
  - Karaoke
  - Tuesdays, 8-9 p.m.
  - Sundays, 8-9 p.m.
- **Memphis Jazz Orchestra**
  - Sun- /Thursdays, 7 p.m.-1 a.m.
  - Mondays, 8 p.m.-10 p.m.
  - Tuesdays, 8 p.m.-10 p.m.
  - Saturdays, 8 p.m.-10 p.m.
- **Gary Hardy & Memphis 2**
  - Mandi /Thursdays, 7 p.m.-8 p.m.
  - Mondays, 5-6 p.m.
- **GRIZZLIES.COM**
  - MVP member benefits, discounts & more.
  - AS LOW AS $9 PER GAME
  - 2019-20 SEASON TICKETS
- **Itta Bena**
  - 145 BEALE 699-6565
  - 3rd Monday of every month, 7 p.m.
  - 4th Monday of every month, 7 p.m.
  - 1st Tuesday of every month, 8 p.m.
- **B.B. King’s All Stars**
  - King’s Palace Cafe Patio
  - 1st Sunday of every month, 8 p.m.-9 p.m.
  - 2nd Sunday of every month, 8 p.m.-9 p.m.
  - 3rd Sunday of every month, 8 p.m.-9 p.m.
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  - 4th Sunday of every month, 8 p.m.-9 p.m.
After Dark: Live Music Schedule May 30 - June 5

Blind Bear Speakeasy 119 S. MAIN, PEMBROKE SQUARE 417-8435
Live Music: Thursdays-Saturdays, 10 p.m.; The Rusty Pieces Saturday, June 1, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.

Brass Door Irish Pub 152 MADISON 572-1813
Live Music Fridays; Carma Karaoke with Chef Worthy Saturdays, 9-11 p.m.

Dirty Crow Inn 855 KENTUCKY
Grape Friday, May 31, 9 p.m.; Bobbie Stacks and Friends Wednesdays, 8-11 p.m.

Flying Saucer Draught Emporium 130 PEABODY PLACE 523-8536
Songwriters with Roland and Friends Mondays, 7-11 p.m.

Mollie Fontaine Lounge 679 ADAMS 524-1886
Songwriters with Roland and Steve Selvidge Band Tuesdays, 6-8 p.m.

South Main South Main Sounds 550 S. MAIN 494-6543
Songwriters Night Featuring the Truehearts and more, Tuesday, June 4, 8 p.m.

The Peabody 149 UNION 529-4000
Roof Top Party with Drunk Uncle Thursday, May 30, 6-10 p.m.

Rumba Room 303 S. MAIN 523-0020
Red Hot Lindy Hop Swing Dance Saturday, June 1, 6-9 p.m.; Salsa Night Saturdays, 8:30 p.m.-3 a.m.

The Vault 124 GE PATTERSON
The Truehearts Friday, May 31, 8:30 p.m.

South Main South Main Sounds 550 S. MAIN 494-6543
Songwriters Night Featuring the Truehearts and more Friday, May 31, 7 p.m.

B-Side 1555 MADISON L.A.P.D. Thursday, May 30, Goner Records 25th Anniversary with Jack Oblivian, Mike Jeffrey Evans and Ross Johnson, Richard James Friday, May 31, Steve Selvidge Band Saturday, June 1, 10 p.m., Michael Dinnale and Juliet Simmons Dinnale Sunday, June 2, 2:30 p.m., Devil Train Mondays, David Carson Tuesday, June 4, 4:30 p.m., Oster Ring Wednesdays, 8:30 p.m.

Kirk Whalum’s Cafe Kirk Kirk Saturday, June 1, 11:30 p.m.

Black Lodge 405 N. CLEVELAND
Guitar Wolf Sunday, June 2, 2:30 p.m.

Bowes 2120 MADISON 432-2222
Sunday Brunch with Joyce Cobb Sundays, 11:30 a.m.

2:30 p.m.

The Cove 2559 BROAD 730-0719
Ed Finney & Neptune’s Army with Deb Swinyer Thursdays, 8 p.m.; Wayne Peck Friday, May 31, 6:30 p.m.; Lucky 7 Brass Band Friday, May 31, 9 p.m.; Richard Wilson Tuesdays, 6-10 p.m., Ben Menden-Birkenmayer Wednesdays, 6 p.m., Karaoke Wednesdays, 8 p.m.

Crosstown Theater 1350 CONCOURSE AVE.
Kirk Whalum’s Cafe Kirk Sunday, June 1, 2:30 p.m.

The Green Room at Crosstown Arts 1350 CONCOURSE AVE., SUITE 280 507-8030
Luna Nova Music Thursday, May 31; Sound Observations: Nadah El Shazly Friday, May 31, 7:30 p.m.

Growlers 1911 POPLAR 244-7904
The Canaves People, Hawkins AV Club, Bad Dad Jokes, Blck Hippie, the Head Friday, May 31, 9 p.m.; BEITHEMMEIS with the Eastwoods, EVINCE Saturday, June 1, 9 p.m.; Tristian Barton Weekend EP Release Party — Pt 2 Sunday, June 2, 4 p.m.; The Smokers Tuesday, June 4, 8 p.m.; Crockett Hall Tuesdays with The Midtown Rhythm Section Thursdays, 9 p.m, Brad Byrd with Skylar Gregg Wednesday, June 5, 8 p.m.

Lafayette’s Music Room 2119 MADISON 207-5097
Memphis Funk N’ Horns Friday, May 31, 6 p.m.; Nick Black Friday, May 31, 10 p.m.; Will B. Smith Saturday, June 1, 2 p.m.; Ashton Biker Saturday, June 1, 6:30 p.m.; Young Petty Thieves Saturday, June 1, 10 p.m.; Joe Restivo Sundays, 11 a.m., Jeffrey and the Feelers Ruins Sunday, June 2, 4 p.m., Visible Music College Monday, June 3, 6 p.m.; Memphis Funk Tuesday, June 4, 6:30 p.m.; Breeze Cayolle & New Orleans Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m.;

Railgarten 2160 CENTRAL
Fall of Rome EP Release Party Friday, May 31, 7 p.m., NJT Saturday, June 1, 8 p.m.; Garden Dreams, Cirque-style Brunch Sunday, June 2, noon.

The Tower Courtyard at Overton Square 2092 TRIMBLE PLACE
Acoustic Courtyard Last Thursday of every month, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Poplar/I-240
Neil’s Music Room 5727 QUINCE 682-2300
Eddie Smith Fridays, 8 p.m., Debbie Jamison & Friends Tuesdays, 6-10 p.m.; Elmo and the Shades Wednesdays, 8 p.m., midnight.

South Whitehaven Airport
Graceland Soundstage 9015 ELVIS PRESLEY BLVD.
Striper Sunday, June 2, 6 p.m.

Rock-n-Roll Cafe 3855 ELVIS PRESLEY
Elvis Gospel Music Show Fridays, 1-3:30 p.m.

Suburbs
Bartlett
Hadley’s Pub 2779 WHITNEY 266-5006
Triple Annie Friday, May 31, 9 p.m., Mo Boogie Saturday, June 1, 9 p.m., Area 51 Sunday, June 2, 2:30 p.m.

Shelby Forest
General Store 7725 BERJESTOWN 876-5770
Mark Edgar Stuart Saturday, June 1, 12-3 p.m., Possum Drifters Sunday, June 2, 12:30-3:30 p.m.

Frazier/Millington
Long Road Cider Company 9053 BARRET 352-0962
Bobby Blue Bland Blues Music Festival Saturday, June 1, 5-9 p.m.

Memphis
North Mississippi/Tunica
Gold Strike Casino 1010 CASINO CENTER, TUNICA, MS 1-888-245-7829
Tracy Lawrence Friday, May 31, 9-10:30 p.m.

Horseshoe Casino Tunica 1021 CASINO CENTER, MS 1-800-357-5600
REO Speedwagon Saturday, June 1, 1-8 p.m.

Raleigh
Stage Stop 2951 CELA 283-5756
Open Mic Night and Steak Night Thursdays, 6 p.m. midnight; Blues Jam hosted by Brad Webb Thursdays, 7-11 p.m.

West Memphis/Eastern Arkansas
Private Studio 212 WEST POLK
Blues off Broadway; Marquise Knox, Elmo & the Shades Thursday, May 30, 5-8 p.m.
CALENDAR of EVENTS: MAY 30 - JUNE 5

THEATER

Hattiloo Theatre


The Orpheum

Anastasia, a brave young woman sets out to discover the mystery of her past. www.orpheum-memphis.com. $25-$125. June 4-7, 7:30 p.m. 203 S. MAIN (525-2000).

TheatreWorks

Fort Site, a comedy by Ruby O’Gray about young church youth entering their widowed Bible Class teacher’s name on various dating websites, unbeknownst to him, in hopes of finding a wife for him. (930-7737). womens@memphis.org. $20/15 seniors, students. Fri., May 31, 7:30-9 p.m., and Sat., June 1, 5-6:30 & 8-9:30 p.m. 2035 MONROE (744-1299).

ARTIST RECEIPTIONS

Eclectic Eye


I. Ross Gallery


Metal Museum

Opening Reception and Gallery Talk for “40 Under 40,” to continue the celebration of the museum’s 40th anniversary, this exhibition explores the next generation of influential American metal artists. (774-6380). www.metalmuseum.org. Sun., June 2, 3-5 p.m. 374 METAL MUSEUM DR. (774-6380).

Stock&Belle

Trolley Night: Live Painting from Renda Writer, guests can enjoy Writer live painting in his signature “handwritten” style. (734-2911). Fri., May 31, 6-9 p.m. 387 S. MAIN (734-2911).

WkNO Studio


OTHER ART HAPPENINGS

Art Trolley Tour

Tour the local galleries and shops on South Main. Last Friday of every month, 6-9 p.m. SOUTH MAIN HISTORIC ARTS DISTRICT, DOWNTOWN.

Artist Talk for “Soft Landing”

Emily Leonard discusses her new exhibition. Sat., June 1, 11 a.m.

Leadership Memphis Exhibition

The Withers Collection Museum & Gallery has partnered with Leadership Memphis to display a monthly exhibit open to the public the last Friday of every month. Free. Last Friday of every month, 6-8 p.m. LEADERSHIP MEMPHIS, 365 S. MAIN ST. (523-2344), WWW.THEWITHERSCOLLECTION.COM/EXHIBITIONS.

Open Late

Galleries and gardens will be open late. Free with admission. Every third Thursday, 6-8 p.m. THE DIXON GALLERY & GARDENS, 4339 PARK (761-5250), WWW.DIXON.ORG.

Spring Show and Sale

Exhibition and sale of works by the Memphis Potters’ Guild. Fri., May 31, 5-8 p.m., Sat., June 1, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sun., June 2, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. ST. ANNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL, 610 S. HIGHLAND (323-3817). WWW.THEMEMPHISPOTTERSguild.com.

DANCE

Red Hot Lindy Hop Swing Dance

Monthly swing dance with beginner lesson 6 p.m. followed by dance 7-9 p.m. Full bar; no experience or partner needed. $7. Sat., June 1, 6-9 p.m. RUMBA ROOM, 303 S. MAIN (205-799-8449).

COMEDY

The Halloran Centre

The Hodgetwins, the YouTube comedy duo, bring their act to the stage. www.orpheum-memphis.com. $25-$50. Sat., June 1, 8 p.m. 225 S. MAIN (525-5000).

continued on page 22

Anastasia at The Orpheum, Tuesday, June 4th, through Friday, June 7th
Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Blood Study

Male and female participants needed.
If you have been told you have a medical condition caused by infection with HPV, you can help support research into prevention or control of diseases caused by the virus by providing a small sample of your blood. You must be at least 18 years of age and in generally good health to participate.

Participants will receive monetary compensation ranging from $25 to $300 based on the level of participation.
Schedule a 30 minute appointment to take part.

KeyBiologics LLC

For a confidential inquiry:
Call 901.252.3434
e-mail researchchampions@keybiologics.com
or visit www.keybiologics.com/researchchampions
continued from page 20

BOOKSIGNINGS

Books by Michael Ford
Author discusses and signs his new book, North Mississippi Homeplace: Photographs and Folklife. Mon., June 3, 6 p.m. NOXEL, 287 PERRINS EST. (922-5526), WWW.NOVELMEMPHIS.COM.

Books by Tom Graves
Author discusses and signs his new book, White Boy: A Memoir. Tues., June 4, 6 p.m. NOVEL, 287 PERRINS EST. (922-5526), WWW.NOVELMEMPHIS.COM.

LECTURE/SPEAKER

Daylilies in the Mid-South
Presentation by Richard Wil-iamson on selecting, growing, and caring for the best daylilies. Thurs., May 30, 6:30 p.m. JULIUS GARDEN, 5100 WASHINGTON AVENUE (276-3806), PALLADIO GARDEN, 2231 CENTRAL AVENUE (276-3806), PAL-LADIO GARDEN, 2231 CENTRAL AVENUE (276-3806), PALLADIOGAR- DEN.COM.

TOURS

Bicentennial History Hikes
Meet at the guest services desk in the Visitor Center. Tuesdays, 2 p.m. LIGHTERMAN NATURE CENTER, 5992 QUINCE (767-7322). WWW.MEMPHISMUSEUMS.ORG.

Through Our Garden Gates Garden Tour
Annual event sponsored by the Memphis Area Master Gardeners, featuring docent-led tours of seven gardens grown and nurtured by master gardeners. For more information and directions go to memphisareamastergardeners.org or call (901) 752-1207. Sat., June 1, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. VARIOUS LOCATIONS; SEE WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION. WWW.MEMPHISAREAMASTERGARDENERS.ORG.

Walk With Me
Join tour guide Amanda Knight for an introduction to Elmwood Cemetery, with visits to ancient trees and magnificent monuments along carriage paths. $20. Sat., June 1, 12-3:30 p.m. ELWOOD CEMETERY, 624 S. DUDLEY (774-3212), WWW.EVENTBRITE.COM.

Yellow Fever Rock & Roll Ghost Tour
See what used to be, Memphis style, with Mike McCarthy. Call to schedule a personal tour. Ongoing. (466-6325), WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/YELLOWROCKGHOST/.

FESTIVALS

Memphis Italian Festival

“Beauty in the Midst of Decay” by Donald Golden
at WKNO Studio, Sunday, June 2nd, at 2 p.m.

Town Blues Band Thursday night, Hope Clayburn & Soul Scrimage on Friday. $10 for adults, kids 10 and under get in free. Thurs., May 30, 4-11 p.m. Fri., May 31, 11 a.m.-11 p.m., and Sat., June 1, 11 a.m.-11 p.m. MARQUETTE PARK, PARK AVE. AND MT. MORRIS, WWW.MEMPHISAREAMASTERGARDENERS.ORG.

Memphis Roller Derby Boot Camp
Boot camp is for adults of all genders aged 18 and over. A $10 fee covers two weeks of skating instruction, rules and NSO certification. $10. Mon., May 30, 6:45-9:15 p.m. MID-SOUTH FAIRGROUNDS, PIPKIN BUILDING, EAST PARKWAY AT CEN-TRAL (909-5050).

MEETINGS

In Her Time
Sixth-annual women’s breakfast presented by the Salvation Army. Tues., June 4, 6:45-9:15 p.m. MEMPHIS INTERNATIONAL RACEWAY, 500 VICTORY LANE, WWW.SALARMN.COM.

Memphis Roller Derby Boot Camp
Boot camp is for adults of all genders aged 18 and over. A $10 fee covers two weeks of skating instruction, rules and NSO certification. $10. Mon., May 30, 6:45-9:15 p.m. MID-SOUTH FAIRGROUNDS, PIPKIN BUILDING, EAST PARKWAY AT CEN-TRAL (909-5050).

KIDS

Magical Summer Book Club
A magical adventure for young wizards and magic fans every Monday through June and July, with snippets of the story, on-theme clay and ceramics projects, and fun. Ages 7+. $199 for the series, $29 a day. Mon., 1-3:30 p.m. Through July 29. PITTER POTTER STUDIO, 845 GER-MANTOWN PKWY (443-7718).

S.T.A.X.: See, Touch, Ask, Explore
On Tuesday afternoons, kids can enjoy a summer music series and See, Touch, Ask, and Explore the history of Stax Records with hands-on activities and objects from the archive on display. Free. Tuesdays, 1-4 p.m. Through July 30. STAX MUSEUM OF AMERICAN SOUL MUSIC, 926 E. MCLEMORE (942-7685), STAXMUSEUM.COM/EVENT/.

Summer Camp
Each week-long session includes rental gear, four hours of games, instruction, and climbing each day. Participants ages range from 5-14. $189 Mondays-Fridays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Through Aug. 30. HIGH POINT CLIMBING AND FITNESS, 21 N. HUMPHREY’S (203-6122). WWW.HIGHPOINTCLIMBING.COM.

Toy and Model Train Show
The last train show of the season, with door prizes, lots of O gauge trains and accessories, and great fun for adults and kids. $5 Sat., June 1, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. ST. GEORGE’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 2425 SOUTH GERMANTOWN (754-7282), WWW.HIGHPOINTCLIMBING.COM.

continued on page 24
THE BEST ENTERTAINMENT IN TUNICA

**RONNIE MILSAP**
JUNE 7

**AARON LEWIS:**
STATE I'M IN TOUR
JUNE 27 & 28

**SEETHER**
JULY 27

**DAUGHTRY**
JULY 19

**AMY GRANT**
JULY 12

**RON WHITE**
JULY 5

**FOR MATURE AUDIENCES**

**UPCOMING SHOWS**

June 1 | REO Speedwagon
August 10 | Cameo
August 31 | Australian Pink Floyd

Tickets available online at Ticketmaster.com

DeltaARTS Presents

**Sundays with the Arts**

**Obruni Dance Band**

Alex Greene of *The Memphis Flyer* says, “The Obruni Dance Band specializes in West African Highlife Music, the eminently danceable grooves that have dominated popular music in Ghana for nearly a century, where cascading guitar arpeggios swirl around intricately locked bass and drums.” This performance will be sure to get everyone up on their feet to experience the rhythms, movement and joy of African pop music.

**Sunday, June 2nd, 3:00 pm**
DeltaARTS Glenn P. Schoettle Arts Education Center
301 S. Rhodes, West Memphis

Made possible by a grant from the H.W. Durham Foundation.
Thursday Nights • April—August
6PM-10PM
$10-15 • LADIES FREE ‘TIL 7PM

5.30 Drunk Uncle
6.6 Garry Goin Group
6.13 Seeing Red
6.20 DJ Epic
6.27 Soul Shockers
7.04 Bluff City Bandits
7.11 Voodoo Gumbo
7.18 City Mix

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CALANDER: MAY 30 - JUNE 5

continued from page 22

Unplugged Play: CMOM Summer Camp
Children can unplug and try out different roles, learn to play with others, and express themselves creatively. $200 for members, $250 for nonmembers; $30 for aftercare, $50 sibling discount(s). Mondays-Fridays, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Through June 28.
CHILDREN’S MUSEUM OF MEMPHIS, 2275 CENTRAL (436-2678). WWW.CMOM.COM.

FUND-RAISERS

25 | 4U Night
Next Door Door at Crosstown Concourse is donating 25 percent of every dine-in check to Tennis Memphis. Mon., June 3, 5-9 p.m.
NEXT DOOR EATERY, 1350 CON- COURSE (374-0623).

We Need You! Period.—Sister Supply Celebrates Menstrual Hygiene Day
Drop off menstrual supplies and/or monetary donations at participating locations. Visit website for list. Through June 2.
WWW.SISTERSUPPLY.ORG.

Yappy Hour
Eco-sponsors this event benefiting the humane society, which includes food tasting, live music, beer, wine, and signature cocktails. $50. Sun., June 2, 2-6 p.m.
ECCO, 1585 OTTERON PARK (397- 3943), HSMSC.EJOINME.ORG. ABOUTYAPPYHOUR.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Community Health Wellness and Safety Fair
One-stop resource fair for the family, focusing on health, wellness, and safety. This event lacks of CPR and AED Awareness Week and National Safety Month. Free. Sat., June 1, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
NALEIGH COMMUNITY CENTER, 3578 POWER (337-8964).

Firefly Glow Party
Get glowing at the Illumination Station, visit the Glow Lab to discover nature under blacklight, bring your light-up toys to our dance party featuring evening performances and an LED hoop performance. MBG members $12/non-members $15. Fri., May 31, 7-9:30 p.m.
MEMPHIS BOTANIC GARDEN, 750 CHERRY (636-4100), WWW.MEMPHISBOTANICGARDEN.COM.

King of the Street Bike Weekend
Featuring activities and events focused on the power and passion of the riding life. Sat., June 1, 9 a.m.-9:30 p.m., and Sun., June 2, 7 a.m.-10 p.m.

Creating Memphis: 200 Years of Community
Bicentennial celebration, the exhibit illustrates how the threads of Memphis history form a larger story or web of history. Through Oct. 20.

FOOD & DRINK

“Forever an Icon” by Anton Weiss at L. Ross Gallery, Friday, May 31st, 6-8 p.m.
MEMPHIS PINK PALACE MUSEUM, 3050 CENTRAL (636-2382), WWW.MEMPHISMUSEUMS.ORG.

Velvetina’s Blue Moon Revue
Live music, burlesque performances, and dinner from the Lounge. $30. Wednesdays-Saturdays, 7-9 p.m. Through Sept. 28.
MOLLIE FONTAINE LOUNGE, 679 ADAMS (917) 705-0945, WWW.BLUEMOONREVUEMEMPHIS.COM.

We Need You! Period.—Sister Supply Period Pack Party
Entertainment and refreshments will accompany the packing party. Volunteers are encouraged to collect & bring menstrual products to pack. Sat., June 1, 1-2 p.m.
SHADY GROVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 1530 SHADY GROVE (683-5239), WWW.SISTERSUPPLY.ORG.

FOOD & DRINK EVENTS

Botanical Bars: Herbal Highballs
Discover the herbs that go into your favorite cocktails and how to you you way through our herb garden. Stop by the Gin and Tonic Bar and create your custom drink; enjoy bubbly blooms with a Lavender Peach Bellini, enjoy a local brew, and sip into summer with a refreshing cucumber mint cocktail. MBG members $30/non-members $40. Thurs., May 30, 6-8 p.m.
MEMPHIS BOTANIC GARDEN, 750 CHERRY (636-4100), WWW.MEMPHISBOTANICGARDEN.COM.

Food Truck Friday
Admission to the gardens is free during Food Truck Friday. Park & Cherry café is open for lunch, and food trucks will be in the gardens. Fridays, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Through June 28.
THE DENNIS GALLERY & GARDENS, 4339 PARK (761-5250), WWW.DENGEN.ORG.

Forks & Corks
A night of food, music, and wine, with beautiful views among the vines and under the stars. $40. Sat., June 1, 6-10:30 p.m.
DE TERRE VINEYARD & WINES OF SOMERVILLE, 605 JOINERS CAMP-GROUND (465-3802), WWW.FORKSANDCORKS.COM.

Whiskey Dinner with the Master of Scotch
Rick Edwards
One of the four highest-educated Masters of Scotch in the world, Rick Edwards, is sharing his favorites — Glenlivet, Chivas Regal, and Aberlour. Dinner will be provided and carefully paired with each whiskey. $75. Thurs., May 30, 6-9 p.m.
CELTIC CROSSING, 901.6 COOPER (374-3151).

FILM

Apollo 11: First Steps Edition
Film celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing. Check CITI Theater schedule for show times and ticket prices. Ongoing.
CTI 3D GIANT THEATER, IN THE MEMPHIS PINK PALACE MUSEUM, 3050 CENTRAL (636-2382), WWW.MEMPHISMUSEUMS.ORG.

A Walk to Remember
A jaded, aimless high school senior falls in love with a guileless young woman he and his friends once scorned. The two develop a powerful and inspirational relationship and discover truths that take most people a lifetime to learn. Thurs., May 30, 8 p.m.
THE TOWER COURTHOUSE AT OVERTON SQUARE, 202 TRIMBLE PLACE MEMPHIS, TN 38104, WWW.OVERTONSQUARE.COM.
What a Drag

Bar DKDC: sanctuary for real people.

When it comes to drag performances, the higher the heels, the higher my expectations. Mary Gagz and Her Gaggle of Drags, performing at Karen Blockman Carrier’s Bar DKDC every Monday night from 8:30 to 11 p.m., leave little to be desired in their full-on takeover of one of Memphis’ favorite artful holes in the wall. The night also serves as the bar’s industry night. The evening’s general feel is reminiscent of Bar DKDC’s sister restaurant, The Beauty Shop’s Rehab nights that used to occur every Monday night. It’s a throwback to the grand days of Rehab: late nights, a colorful cast, and the sort of hangovers that leave you questioning many of life’s decisions. Looking for a reminder? Head to Bar DKDC and this time, remember to take off work on Tuesday.

We arrived about halfway through the show this past Monday and the girls and their fans were in full swing. Tia Burchfield is the bartender on Monday nights and said that part of the reason they began hosting Mary Gagz and the rest of her girls is to try out a re-launch of Rehab. The night includes a full show and industry night prices, including $5 well liquor drinks, $2 PBRs and High Lifes, and $6 Fireball and Tullamore Dew shots. If that doesn’t serve to lube one up after a long weekend of working in hospitality, then your expectations are, honestly, way higher than the heels will ever be.

In a manner, Bar DKDC caters overwhelmingly to us night owls; shows typically begin later and go late into the night. People roll in after long hours, ready to commiserate and imbibe with their fellow restaurant crews, eager to be among their people after dealing with the general public and their obnoxious children in various dining settings. That’s the feeling at DKDC; it’s authenticity and inclusion, a sanctuary for real people with real stories.

But unless you’re living under Mississippi mud, you know about the musical acts at DKDC. Mary Gagz and Her Gaggle of Drags are relatively new to the lineup; they began their weekly performances in late January. From the looks of it, they’ve already established themselves in the fabric of Bar DKDC and its incredible ability to morph into a perfect venue for whichever act it is hosting. Everyone has probably spent a sweaty night in DKDC. Shows get packed and those who do not arrive early will be doomed (or delighted) to stand and sway with the music rather than find a comfortable seat. But that’s the atmosphere! Get up close and personal with the rest of the fans. Pack into that small room and feel the passion. Find yourself falling backwards into the photobooth as the crowd runneth over. And, if you’re Mary Gagz and company, work the room like you own it and take possession of the hearts and souls of those who watch.

The drag performance was a more low-key affair than the pulsating throng of people you normally encounter at a late-night weekend performance (and thank the heavens above; it’s Monday, after all). The girls had plenty of room to move about, titillate, and invite others into their wild world. The audience came prepared to drink, cheer, and offer monetary support to our Memphis performers who put so much into their alter egos. Tia, our bartender who has probably seen her fair share of debauchery, rock-and-roll, and drunken exploits cited none of the former as her favorite reasons for working at DKDC. She simply said that it’s the people that she works alongside that make her job most enjoyable. It speaks to the scene that Bar DKDC cultivates. It’s a place for whichever act it is performing at Karen Blockman Carrier’s Bar DKDC every Monday night from 8:30 to 11 p.m., leave little to be desired in

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Rain location is Baker Community Center, 7942 Church Street, Millington, TN
very now and then, a movie comes along that is so of its time that it comes to define its time. Rebel Without a Cause caught the energy of the early rock-and-roll era. In the ’80s, John Hughes films both reflected high school reality and helped shape it. As I came out of Booksmart, I felt like I had just seen Ferris Bueller’s Day Off for the first time. Olivia Wilde’s directing debut has the potential to be one of those generation-defining high school films.

Part of that is by design. Booksmart is very specifically about the class of 2019, and BFFs Amy (Kaitlyn Dever) and Molly (Beanie Feldstein) are about to graduate at the top of it. Amy is a do-gooder lesbian who drives a vintage Volvo with a Warren 2020 sticker on the bumper. Molly is the anti-Bart Simpson: the product of a distinctly working class home who is an overachiever at everything. On the last day of school, as class president, she’s more interested in going over year end budget numbers with Nick (Mason Gooding) than finding ways to celebrate.

But right before cap and gown time, they are suddenly struck by an acute case of late-blooming FOMO. They set out on their penultimate high school night to find the ultimate high school party, and maybe finally put the moves on their respective crushes while they’re at it. The two have a Ferris/Cameron dynamic. Molly, utterly convinced of her own smarts, is constantly talking the reluctant Amy into escalating the hi-jinks, while Amy immediately lives to regret it. Feldstein, who shone as Saoirse Ronan’s best friend in Lady Bird, fully emerges as a major comedic talent. Dever plays it tighter to the vest, but the two characters are such fully intertwined teenage best friends you can’t really call her the straight woman.

We follow Amy and Molly, and root for them to have fun, and for their friendship to endure. But Booksmart rises above the usual teen movie clichés by fully humanizing all of its supporting characters. First and foremost is Hollywood royalty Billie Lourd giving off strong Jeff Spicoli vibes as Gigi, the drug-addled rich girl who serves as Amy and Molly’s spirit guide for their procession through progressively less lame parties. Jared (Skyler Gisondo) drives an ’80s Firebird with a FUK BOI license plate. His taste in hats echoes Pretty in Pink’s Ducky. Booksmart kicks into high gear at the epically unsuccessful party he throws on a docked yacht and keeps that momentum going all the way to the end, wrenching unexpected twists from the Superbad-like premise.

Working from a whip smart screenplay by four women writers, Wilde lovingly shepherds Amy and Molly through the best/worst night of their lives. The way she precisely balances out Feldstein’s manic energy and Dever’s thin veneer of calm is reminiscent of how John Landis handled Belushi and Aykroyd in The Blues Brothers. Most crucially, editor Jamie Gross, who worked on MacGruber and Popstar: Never Stop Never Stopping, two of the decade’s best comedies, delivers a cut so tight you could bounce a quarter off it.

So much contemporary comedy feels clutching and desperate for a laugh. They’ll just throw in five vaguely amusing gags and hope you fall for one of them. Booksmart feels loose and spontaneous, and it looks like everyone’s having a good time on the set, but the laughs flow naturally from the characters and situations. Even when something truly Porky’s-level
outlandish happens, it feels earned and not mean spirited. It’s hard to do comedy well in these politically fraught times, but Wilde gets the tone just right, so that it feels like an authentic voice of Generation Z, or whatever the hell we’re calling the kids these days.

And what kind of portrait of the kids these days emerges from Booksmart? Pretty darn good, all things considered. The politics of the moment are integral to everything. Molly is focused on changing things from within the system and planning to move to Washington to get into politics after she graduates from Yale, which conveniently fits her personal ambition in with the greater good. Amy, who sports a denim jacket with patches that say “SISTER,” is going to go to Africa to help women there directly. You know that their idealism will get roughed up when they run up against the real world, but the kids’ determination to shape it in a new and better image is the spark that gives them life. And consider this: Even at the end of John Hughes’ most optimistic film, The Breakfast Club, the social barriers remain in place, even if the characters themselves got to see around them for a time. In Booksmart, once social barriers are confronted, they’re revealed to have been mirages all along. If that’s how the class of 2019 sees the world, we’re all going to be better off.

Booksmart
Now playing
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Platelet Donors Needed

If you are between the ages of 18 and 50 and in good health, you may be eligible to donate platelets for support of important research activities.

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TMI!

Technology puts reams of new information at our fingertips. That’s not necessarily good.

My sister sent $150 and a tube of saliva to a company in California she found online. They did some science, and now we have a new uncle and cousin. What a time to be alive. I shared this revelation with some friends and learned that The War was apparently a randy time for many granddads and papaws. Guess that’s why it was the Greatest Generation, huh? If your granddaddy served, you might reconsider springing for the Father’s Day offer of 25 percent off an ancestry kit plus free gift-wrap. Or don’t say nobody warned you when you end up with your own gift: uncovered family secrets and a diminished opinion of your grandfather.

Whatever. I get it. War is hell, boys will be boys, and all that. Maybe Grandpa didn’t know about his secret child. It’s too late to tell him, anyway — he’s been gone for 30 years. It could be a mistake or a false alarm. I don’t know how much I trust those mail-order DNA tests — certainly not enough to send my own specimen to their sinister gene library. I read the fine print.

On the bright side, my sister’s spit sample tested negative for the terrifying gumbo of genetic risk factors the service can detect. “Doctor Google” induces enough hypochondria without foresight of the debilitating diseases that lurk in the future. Otherwise I’d spend the rest of my life shouting “I’m a-comin’!” to the heavens, Fred Sanford-style, every time I get a stomach cramp or forget where I put my keys. That’s the last thing I need. I lose those things every day.

As family secrets go, ours is awkward but not exactly earth-shattering. My grandmother isn’t around to have her feelings hurt. It’s just another thing to add to the growing list of things I wish I hadn’t found out, like the amount of sodium in a packet of instant ramen. I’m not sure if I’m afflicted with millennial unrest or I’ve recently unlocked a new adulting level, but I’m starting to reconsider my stance on knowledge being power. It’s kind of overrated. Between the things that can’t be unseen or unheard, immaterial crap, and general information overload, I’m starting to understand how people did live without this stuff. As someone who works in digital content and also has to watch a YouTube video to boil an egg, that’s saying something.

It’s wonderful that technology puts new realms of information at our fingertips. But only a sliver of it is essential; the rest is either pointless or false and it keeps getting harder and harder to distinguish or even keep up. On one hand, think of how many arguments were unsettled before we had tiny computers in our pockets. We don’t have to balance checkbooks to know whether we can afford to charge a pizza to our debit cards — the tiny computer will tell us. Heck, we don’t even need checkbooks anymore. That’s great, but that same computer is also responsible for showing me the infamous “pink slime” video and giving away the ending of Get Out. It has told me so many opinion-wrecking things, like which of my schoolmates grew up to be anti-vaxxers. Not long ago, one had to attend a class reunion to obtain that kind of dirt — it was once-in-a-decade intel. Now it comes with an order of essential oils.

This summer, I’m cutting back on the “Welp, could’ve gone my whole life without that” content I consume. It’s impossible to escape it all, but I know I won’t miss much — I already deleted Nextdoor and left my neighborhood Facebook group, and the high crime rate of loud noises and suspicious teens subsided immediately. Disabling alerts from The Washington Post cut my daily eye-roll tally in half. It’s not that I don’t care what happens in my neighborhood, or in the news. I just don’t need to be pelted with little arrows all day long. Just give me a calculator and an encyclopedia before I forget how to use them. I’ll let y’all know how it goes.

Jen Clarke is a digital marketing specialist and an unapologetic Memphian.
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