# Mickman County Times 50¢

Volume 64 -- Number 41, Centerville, Tennessee County Population 24,690 -- Centerville Population 3,644

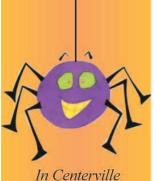
2 Sections Monday, October 22, 2012

(2010 Census) Aetna, Bon Aqua, Brushy, Bucksnort, Coble, Farmer's Exchange, Gray's Bend, Grinders Switch, Little Lot, Locust Creek, Lyles, Nunnelly, Only, Pinewood, Pleasantville, Primm Springs

## This Week in **Hickman** County

Saturday, October 27

See page A12 for details



## Halloween **Events**

Zombie Suicide Run 8 a.m., Centerville Elementary

#### At the Old Courthouse

Pumpkin Carving Contest, 3 p.m.

Haunted Mansion, 5 p.m.

Live Music, 5 p.m.

Halloween Parade, 6:30 p.m.

Costume Contest Judging, 8 p.m.



### **Hickman Humane**

Society Monster Bash. Doggie Dash 9 a.m.-2p.m. RiverPark



#### Arts and Ag Harvest Market,

10 a.m.-6 p.m. Grinder's Switch Winery



Oktoberfest

Noon-2 p.m. Life Care Center of Centerville



### **Turkey Shoot & Halloween Party**

8 a.m.-8 p.m. Pinewood Volunteer Fire Department Fire House

Hickman County Legislative Body meets Monday, 7 p.m.

## One more time on HCHS, land

when commissioners meet even closer.

on projects that require as trial-commercial property lic. much as \$8.25 million deal in East Hickman is

The October 22 session on Monday night in the complete both projects. comes as bid expiration. Hickman County Justice. The larger need is \$7.25. A lower-cost option is (continued on page A3)

Commissioners meet at 7 for money borrowed to tax increase or a \$33-per-panel, which met October

A Budget Committee dates for roof and HVAC Center, in Centerville, to million for a metal roof and \$6.15 million, for a rubber report may help the Legisla- work approach on October visit the issues again. The a heating and cooling sys- roof with a shorter lifespan tive Body make decisions 31; a deadline for an indus- meeting is open to the pub- tem for Hickman County and room-by-room HVAC High School. The cost units. The Budget Committee could be covered over 10 will report on ways to pay years by a 22-cent property ber Gary Hanes said the

Budget Committee memvehicle wheel tax increase. 11, is not recommending



Minnie Pearl's best buddy on any stage, especially the Grand Ole Opry's, was musician Roy Acuff.

100th birthday of Hickman County's most famous daughter is October 25

2 auctions, see page A12

Born 100 years ago this Thursday in Centerville, Ophelia Colley's dreams of a dramatic acting career didn't work out like she hoped . . . but she became

world famous anyway. That is, fame came to her Minnie Pearl — the characlearned she could make people laugh. The success of the innocent Minnie and her down-home humor led her to the Grand Ole Opry and recognition that a little Following here are some innocence that character-

dream of.

1996 at age 83, Mrs. Colley Dew. had won the nation's top ter she developed as she accolades and, through cent of evil or wickedness cancer research.

Centerville girl could only excerpts from her 1980 autobiography, "Minnie By the time she died in Pearl," written with Joan

"I grew up totally inno-

Minnie, had become both of any kind. I think one of an ambassador for Ameri- the reasons Minnie Pearl can values and a symbol of has found so many fans is because she retains some of How did all that happen? this guileless, childlike

ized my formative years. County High School in No one locked their doors 1930. or feared their neighbors in Centerville. The whole friend was Monnette

town was my playground." Sarah Ophelia Colley was born September 12, 1912, the fifth daughter of T.K. her "Phel," pronounced and Fannie Tate House Col- "feel" — in the annual Oraley, who both had come torical and Declamatory here from Franklin. She Contest during their senior grew up within easy walk- year. Phel read a portion of ing distance of the Public the final scene from Square, was encouraged by Madame Butterfly; Monher sisters to perform and nette, a funny story about a graduated from Hickman

Growing up, her best Thompson; it was Monnette who finished ahead of Ophelia — her father called (continued on page A2)

## Big day opens vote More than 300 persons cast a ballot on the first day

of early voting, in advance of the November 6 General Election. Elections administrator

Martie Davis said the 301vote total included 194 ballots cast at the Election Commission office in Centerville and 107 ballots cast at East Hickman High School.

Both sites remain open six days a week through November 1. Voters must bring a government-issued photo identification card.



Candidate **Announcements** See page A7

U.S. House District 7

Wm. Ryan Akin Credo Amouzouvik **Jack Arnold** Marsha Blackburn **Lenny Ladner Howard Switzer** 

## <u>Tuesday</u>

## EHHS Choir in concert

7 p.m.





## Teacher of the year

Christian Fisher (center) is Hickman County's 2012 Teacher of the Year, chosen by school administrators and recognized with a \$200 prize from Meriwether Lewis Electric Cooperative. Fisher — eighth grade social studies teacher at East Hickman County Middle School — is shown here with MLEC's Gary Cunningham (left) and schools Supt. Jerry Nash.

## The guru of Halloween

Bobby McFarlin started crowd. decorating his yard, then on than 20 years ago. Last Halloween is a tradition year, he was the master- here." mind behind the first Cen-

terville Halloween Parade, this Saturday. The second up East Swan Street to the a year ago which drew near- parade steps off at 6:30 p.m. start.

"I was surprised," he route, from the Centerville West End Avenue, more says. "Really, I just think Church of Christ down College and then Church to the Public Square, down North The spooky fun continues Central Avenue and finally

tional Christmas Parade

ly 30 floats and a thick and will follow the tradi- (continued on page A12)



## **Leadership tour**

ship tour were high school students (from left) Voyles and Travis Thornton. Hannah Mayberry, Presley Jones, Loren Hell-

Visiting Hickman County Mayor Steve Grego- mann, Dakota Adams, Jordan Anglin, Brad ry last Wednesday during the Youth Leader- Perry, Brett Wilson and (not shown) Jon

## Minnie Pearl

(continued from page A1)

"Monnette's reading had made them laugh; they had fun listening to her. She brought them enjoyment and she would probably have won even if I hadn't blown the best part of my reading. Years later, thinking back on that traumatic incident made it easier for me to accept comedy as a career. Possibly the Lord was already trying to show me then that I didn't have the talent to become a great dramatic actress."

She attended Ward-Belmont, a two-year "finishing school" — emerging with the continuing desire to go into dramatic acting. She ended up teaching piano, dancing and dramatics in . . . Centerville.

"The hometown that had once offered me both adventure and security now seemed like a prison, holding me back from the challenges and attainments I felt sure awaited me in the world. . . . My friends either were still away at college or had married and were raising families. I felt stranded, cut off from all that was new, fun and exciting. Centerville hadn't changed, but I had."

In the summer of 1934 she found a job with Sewell Production Company, which sent its "directors" to small Southern towns to produce local plays, sharing the profits with local organizations. In early 1936, she was assigned to produce a show in Sand Mountain,

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couple welcomed her in.

old lady for a long time character.' after I left her home. I had repeat them in dialect. But and recordings. loved all my life."

comed her.

"You'll make a fortune father said.

challenge of losing a par- dren a day after school. Club convention.

to me. I felt my self mov- without much preparation.

stable boy and a horse Ala., arriving in a winter ing out of Sarah Ophelia storm with no place to stay Colley into Minnie Pearl. I for the next 10 days, until felt more uninhibited than I an accommodating older ever had felt doing her before, but it was more "I thought about that cute than that. I became the

> By the spring of 1940, been collecting country though, the Sewell Compastories and anecdotes from ny was pretty much out of the time I'd begun on the business; plays weren't road, and it was fun to selling in the rage of radio

> I had never thought of "I was 28 years old; I building a character was broke; I had no job around them. . . . I named and no promise of one. I her Minnie Pearl because wasn't married and I didn't both names were country have a career. I wasn't names I had heard and even qualified to do anything, except teach dancing She stopped back at her or dramatics, and not only parents' home in Center- did I hate that idea, I couldville shortly after her expe- n't have made a living at it rience in Sand Mountain, anyway because there and imitated the old weren't enough prospecwoman who had wel- tive students in my small hometown."

By August, she won a off that some day, Phel, if job running the recreation you keep it kind," her center and earning \$50 a month, through the World Still on the road in 1937, Progress Administration; it Ophelia was suddenly was upstairs in the Sam called home by the death Davis Lodge of the of her father at age 80; he Knights of Pythias buildnever did see Minnie Pearl ing; by Thanksgiving, she she joined the cast of Heeon stage. But despite the was overseeing 100 chil- Haw; in 1975, she was

ent, Ophelia continued to The Lions Club asked Music Hall of Fame and work on the character: sto- her to present a show in the won the Mark Twain Prize ries, singing and clothing fall, and she did so, bringwere refined as she contining Minnie Pearl to the ued to direct plays in the local stage with some supregion. She tried her new porting characters. Ten character out in 1939 in minutes was enough to Aiken S.C., at a Pilot's show her talent, and she was next asked to perform to the National Comedy "As I passed among the at an upcoming state banktables in my costume, ing convention, also in speaking to people, smil- Centerville. The guest ing and saying howdy, an speaker was late and she incredible thing happened was pressed into service,

"Howdy, I'm just so proud to be here,' I began. Then I told the men I'd like to give them my interpretation of a mountain girl, Minnie Pearl, and I went into my repertoire of country jokes. I had those men in the palm of my hand from the beginning and I knew it."

Nashville banker Bob Turner was in the audience; he told WSM radio general manager Harry Stone about the Centerville woman. Stone called; Ophelia auditioned, and she began a career that took her far beyond her home. She met Roy Acuff, who asked her to go on the road with him and his band.

"I had no way of knowing that booking was the beginning of 27 consecutive years of one-nighters. If I had known I might not have rushed home so enthusiastically to tell Mama the good news."

She married Henry Cannon in 1947 and kept on performing. In the 1970s, inducted into the Country for Humor.

In 1985, she survived cancer with a double mastectomy, and a cancer center was named for her.

In 1994, she was named Hall of Fame.

## Pamida: more items

The final stage of Pamida's liquidation sale will run through November, with merchandise brought in from the company's distribution center and other stores, with savings of up to 50 percent.

Centerville's Pamida is among the last group of stores that will be converted

over to Shopko Hometown

The conversion will take from five to six weeks, with new signage, fixtures, a new design layout and an expanded mix of merchandise.

More than 170 recentlyacquired stores are in the Shopko conversion process.



# Pinewood Volunteer Fire Dept. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27 Turkey Shoot: 8am-4pm · Halloween Party: 4pm-8pm d PINEWOOD FIRE HALL



#### Mr. William Jack Easley, 74

Services for Mr. William Jack Easley, 74, of Nunnelly, who died on Wednesday, October 10, 2012 at Hickman Community Hospital in Centerville, were held on Sunday, October 14 at McDonald Funeral Home in Centerville.

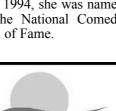
A native of Centerville, Mr. Easley was the husband of Patricia Dooley Easley and the son of the

late Robert "Buck" and Jessie Bates Easley. He was a construction business owner and served in the Tennessee Army National Guard.

In addition to his wife, he leaves two daughters, Karen Lewis of Franklin and Jennifer Easley of Spring Hill; his stepmother, Dorothy Easley of Centerville; two sisters, Roberta Anderson of Centerville and Wanda Qualls of Columbia; two stepsisters, Judy Mathis of Centerville and Jerry Forrester of Union City, and three grandchildren, Brooklyn Lewis and Caroline Lewis both of Franklin, and Joshua Smallwood of Spring Hill. He was preceded in death by his brother, Jimmy Easley.

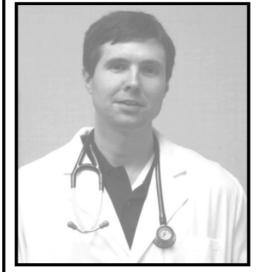
The funeral service was conducted by Bros. Bert Mathis and Bill McDonald and was followed by burial in Milan Cemetery in Centerville.

The family asks that any memorials be made to Centerville United Methodist Church.



## **Three Rivers Community Health**

**Welcomes A New Member of our Medical Team! Brandon Sweat, FNP** 



What are **Brandon Sweats'** Patients saying? Pat T. says... "He takes time to listen and I can tell he really cares!"

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Three Rivers Community Health is federally funded.

INVITATION TO BID

The Hickman County Finance Office is accepting sealed bids for three (3) school bus units. Specifications and bid requirements may be obtained from Tommy Barnes, Director of Transportation, Hickman County Schools at 931-729-3391, Ext. 2241, or email: tommy.barnes@hickmank12.org

Sealed bids must be mailed or delivered to the Hickman County Finance Office, 114 North Central Avenue, Suite 203, Centerville, TN 37033 and clearly marked on the outside of the bid envelope "School Bus Units."

Bids will be opened on Tuesday November 13, 2012 at 10 a.m. at the Finance Office. The Hickman County Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids

The Hickman County Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #80 is accepting donations to help take unfortunate Hickman County children Christmas shopping.

Thanks to your help last year, we were able to take 50 children shopping.

To make a donation, call Jerry Deal at 615-476-1750, Jonathan Aydelott at 931-994-2027, Jonathan O'Guin at 729-5146 or drop it off at the Hickman County Sheriff's office.



Thanks in advance for making this happen!

All contributions are TAX DEDUCTIBLE