Chief Drake briefs Nashville community on Gun Crime reduction efforts and new office of alternative policing strategies

Chief John Drake on Monday, February 1, briefed Mayor John Cooper and the Nashville community on the continued repurposing of MNPD resources to deter and reduce crimes of violence through both enforcement measures and intervention in the lives of young persons before their troublesome behavior becomes a pattern.

“Beginning this week, the department is implementing an enhanced shift of patrol officers across the eight precincts,” Chief Drake said. “Each precinct’s enhanced shift will consist of 9 officers and 1 supervisor, a total of 80 personnel, who will work from 5 p.m. until 3:30 a.m., the hours during which most violent crime occurs. These new teams will be an important part of the department’s public safety mission even as two classes of new police officers graduate from the MNPD Academy next month and in August.”

These officers will provide additional visibility in areas with emerging crime trends through a precision policing model, while also being available to assist.

See Efforts / Strategies on Page 3

Hummon to Host Virtual Benefit for CCJ

Grammy-award winning songwriter and singer Marcus Hummon will host a virtual fundraising concert on Sunday, February 14. The 15th annual Greatest Show and Auction Ever, which will be live-streamed and includes a silent auction, benefits two charities supported by the Nashville-based Center for Contemplative Justice.

Hummon, whose compositions include “Born to Fly,” “Bless the Broken Road,” and “One of These Days,” will host a line-up of local musicians, who will impersonate great country, pop, rhythm & blues, and rock artists of the past. Among those who have “shown up” in previous years are Prince, John Denver, Janis Joplin, Whitney Houston, and George Michael. Organizers say this year’s event, which is love-themed, will continue the tradition.

The Center for Contemplative Justice, founded in 2004, is a non-profit organization that supports a variety of local and international ministries working to promote social justice and contemplative practices.

This year’s show will benefit Escuela Anne Stevens in Ecuador, a school that begun in 1999, and named for the longtime

See CCJ Benefit on Page 3

Questions about the Covid-19 vaccines

With Covid-19 vaccines now being administered to people around the country, you might be wondering when and how you can obtain your vaccine. For additional questions regarding the Covid-19 vaccines, email: covid-19vaccinelogistics@nashville.gov
Repurposing of Gang Unit

The News, February 4, 2021

Efforts / Strategies...

ular evening and overnight officers with responding to citizens’ calls for service during the busiest times. In addition, officers working the enhanced shift will concentrate on responding quickly and in numbers to shooting and robbery calls to immediately assist in identifying and apprehending suspects.

The move to the new shift is intended to complement other changes already in place to identify and apprehend those responsible for gun crimes in Nashville. In October, Chief Drake instituted a 29-member centralized Homicide Unit to replace the 15-year practice of basing homicide investigation at the precinct level. In December, to supplement the work of the Homicide Unit and to add additional resources to identify gun criminals, Chief Drake directed the creation of 6 TITANS (The Investigative Team Addressing Neighborhood Shootings) groups of undercover detectives based in the Specialized Investigations Division. These groups were created through the repurposing of Gang Unit detectives and Juvenile Crime Task Force officers. TITANS detectives now respond to the scenes of murders and critical shootings and work to develop intelligence on the persons responsible, their motives, and who their friends and affiliates may be. The Specialized Investigations Division continues to use the microscopic analysis of shell casings recovered from scenes to connect the same guns and potentially people to shootings in other parts of Nashville and, in some cases, outside Davidson County. It was the work of a TITANS group that led to the January 12th apprehension of Caitlyn Kaufman homicide suspect James Cowan.

On Monday, February 1, Chief Drake also announced the creation of the MNPD’s first-ever Office of Alternate Policing Strategies. Commander David Imhof, who has led operations at the East Precinct for the past 10 years and has recently received his Master’s Degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, will head the new office, and is being appointed to the newly created rank of Inspector. Imhof will work with justice system stakeholders, including Juvenile Court, clergy, mental health professionals, advocacy groups and other community leaders, to refine ways to meaningfully intervene in the lives of young people and those in vulnerable populations whose illegal behavior is indicative of becoming more serious. Imhof will be developing parameters for the office in the coming weeks.

Chief John Drake
CCJ Benefit...

The executive director of St. Luke’s Community Center in West Nashville. Stevens’ daughter is the Rev. Becca Stevens, a local minister who is also the CCJ’s board chair. The CCJ is the school’s primary financial sponsor, providing tuition, teacher salaries, books, supplies and medical care for its more than 80 students.

Also benefiting from the Greatest Show and Auction Ever is Holy Cross Hospice, located in Botswana. Money will help with salaries for nurses, medicines and supplies for the hospice’s approximately 50 patients who suffer from HIV-AIDS and terminal illnesses.

Digital tickets to the virtual event can be obtained at ccj2021.givesmart, or by texting “ccj2021” to 76278. Tickets are free, and include registration for the silent auction, which goes live in February 10. There’s also more information about performers, auction items, how to make donations and more at the website, or by emailing greatestauction@tcfcj.org.

Mayor to spotlight a local leader each day throughout Black History Month

Mayor John Cooper is spotlighting 28 community leaders for their leadership, mentorship and service to Nashville and Davidson County as he celebrates Black History Month for a second year as mayor.

“It’s a special honor to recognize some of Nashville’s dedicated community leaders who have given so much to our city,” Cooper said. “Black history is Nashville’s history, and I look forward to celebrating Black History Month by sharing these leaders’ stories.”

Individuals can follow along on Mayor John Cooper’s social media accounts throughout Black History Month, beginning Monday, February 1:

Twitter: @JohnCooper4Nash
Facebook: facebook.com/MayorJohnCooper
Instagram: @johncooper4nashville

Have a great community news story? Let us know!
Send tips to news@gcanews.com or call 615-298-1500

For more about our COVID-19 safety measures, visit flynashville.com

Boarding pass? Check.
Mask? You know it.

Let’s fly. Safely.
Living with the Four Agreements is worth the effort

The Toltecs lived in southern Mexico around 900 A.D. Their ancient ancestors were teachers of spirituality who understood the illusory nature of reality and discovered what we think we know and take for granted are often not the truth, but rather limitations on our freedom and happiness.

The Toltecs thought that everything is composed of energy; all energy has consciousness which is neither good or bad, positive or negative. Events in our lives are seen in today’s parlance, it is what it is, namely reality.

As long as we think in terms of the duality of right and wrong, positive and negative, good and bad, black and white, you and me, our rigid judgments and comparisons are going to limit us from seeing life as it really is, thereby keeping us in turmoil and unhappiness. For example, a psychologist friend of mine told me that everyone’s mental health is a question of more or less, not either/or. To put it another way, no one person or one group has a monopoly on knowledge, rather we are all learners in different stages of learning.

However, to be clear, Toltec wisdom does not make it all right for murderers to kill innocent people, for drunk drivers to maim themselves or others on the road, for our loved ones and friends to lie to us. Why? Because those acts interfere and savage others’ freedoms and God-given rights.

Don Miquel Ruiz published a book, The Four Agreements based on Toltec wisdom, in 1997, and it was a New York Times bestseller for seven years. Ruiz says that all children are born loving, playful, and genuine (perhaps a reason why we love them, as well as our pets, unconditionally). However, parents and other adults teach them standards of behavior the children must follow to receive love and avoid criticism. Eventually, these standards become internalized into an unconscious set of instructions for living life. Ruiz believes that most of these unconscious beliefs are arbitrary or false, irrational, and unnecessarily limiting. He adds that the key to freedom is to become aware of these limiting thoughts and to retrain our minds to more positive, wholesome, and truthful thoughts.

The Toltecs thought that their ancient ancestors were children. It was perfectly normal for us to have made those earlier limiting agreements, but now as adults, we have to pierce the filter or screen through which we are viewing and living life in order to reach the potential deep inside us.

Ruiz advocates all of us adopting four new agreements, once we discard our old ones. First, be impeccable with your word. Speak with integrity. Say only what you mean. Avoid speaking against yourself or gossiping about others. Use your word for truth and love.

Second, don’t take anything personally. What others say and do projects their own reality and dreams. When you are immune to the opinions and actions of others, you won’t needlessly suffer.

Third, don’t make assumptions. Find the courage to ask questions and express what you really want. Communicate with others as clearly as you can to avoid misunderstandings, sadness, and drama.

Fourth, always do your best. Your best will change from moment to moment; for example, it will be different when you are healthy as opposed to sick. But, under any circumstance, doing your best will avoid self-judgment, self-abuse, and regret.

Living the four agreements is a challenge because we are having to shed years of habit and conditioning, and there will be setbacks. It will always be a work in progress, but it is worth the effort.

Contact Horace Johns at (615) 292-3030.
Valentine’s Day is upon us. Some couples celebrate, some don’t. I have to be honest, we didn’t celebrate for a long time, but NOW I see it as a great opportunity to do my hair, get out of the house and NOT cook! Before kids, count me OUT...after kids... count me IN, and DON’T forget I need presents as well! I pushed these kids out, and you’re going to hear about it for the rest of your days so,...

NOW our Valentine’s Day tradition involves dinner reservations, jewelry (of course), wine, and lots of dark chocolate. Not exactly in that order. People ask me, “Jenny, don’t you get tired of jewelry since you are around it all the time?” NO! It just becomes harder to impress me with it, so I’ve become a little more expensive... poor David. Jewelry aside, as the holiday of love approaches, I was inspired to dig a bit deeper to understand why we celebrate Valentine’s Day. I know how I celebrate it, but why? Why do we do it? Where did it come from? To my surprise, after some research and digging, this holiday’s history is actually complicated and contradictory.

My research has turned up three St. Valentines associated with February 14th. So, I will share the most popular St. Valentine legend - my style, which is the one that I feel makes the most sense with our contemporary celebration. Short version- St. Valentine was a Roman priest and Emperor Claudius had banned marriage, deciding it made men bad soldiers. Seriously? I think they would’ve fought harder if they had someone they loved to go home to? Priest Valentine thought the ban was so unfair that he broke the rules and married couples in secret. Shhhhh! When Claudius found out, he threw Valentine in jail and sentenced him to death. That’s a bit harsh? Some say Valentine fell in love with the jailer’s daughter Julia, while others say he performed a miracle by healing Julia of her blindness. Either way, when Valentine was taken to be beheaded on February 14th, he sent her a note and signed it, “From Your Valentine.” He became a Saint and around 200 years later, Valentine’s Day was born and here we are still celebrating it today!

In jewelry terms, all stages of relationships lead to me for Valentine’s: two people who fell in love in a long airport Starbucks line that’ve been dating for a year and now he needs the perfect engagement ring, a double-date resulting in an ole switcheroo situation and he wants to get her diamond stud earrings, or a plea of “Jenny, please help me pick out the right “I’m sorry” gift. I really messed up, and I want her back! I used to ask on a scale from 1-10 how bad they messed up, but now I can usually tell from the amount they spend. But honestly, there’s something special here at Green Hills Diamond Brokers for every stage of a relationship or any situation you may find yourself in for both women and men.

So, why jewelry as a Valentine’s Day gift? It’s rare, beautiful, and very durable, lasting through the ups-and-downs of our relationships and marriages, spicing things up when things feel blahhh. It’s a perfect day to get engaged, and you know there is no place like Green Hills Diamond Brokers to buy that perfect, GIA Certified diamond at BROKER PRICES. No matter what fairy-tale one’s facebook or instagram portrays, even in a healthy relationship, there are hardships as well as times of great joy. We all mess up sometimes but remember there is redemption in jewelry! You can also take advantage of our financing options! For better or worse, we are going to help you do the smart thing this year, which is why we are having an EXTRA 20% OFF Select Jewelry this Valentine’s Day starting NOW - diamond studs, hoops, bangles, pendants, eternity bands and more! Whether you are looking to just get out of the house or you’re demanding special presents like me, or both... this Valentine’s Day, we have something unique and special for everyone no matter what stage your relationship is in. Come see me at Green Hills Diamond Brokers!

Jennifer Michaeli, with Green Hills Diamond Brokers
Five young adults take action to help a local business

Over the last month there have been several break-ins on Murphy Road at Jack’s Market and Billy’s Corner, two popular locations for neighbors and customers. Five young adults who frequent both locations decided to take action by setting up a Go-Fund-Me account to help the owner of both locations to repair the damage quickly. Easton Ice, Kieran Smith, Max Mara, Liam McGauran and Jonah Smith have raised in excess of $1500.00 in less than two weeks. When asked about their motivation they explained they knew the employees at both locations and that there was a friendly camaraderie in the neighborhood that made them feel it was their civic duty to help out.

Blvd Estate Sales has a Fabulous Sale This Weekend at
3317 Charlotte Ave. 37209

February 5, 6 & 7  Fri & Sat: 9 am - 3 pm  Sun: 10 am - 2 pm
For details & pics  www.blvdestatesales.com
2021 continues to be an extraordinary year. For health reasons, Chinese Arts Alliance of Nashville will host its Chinese New Year Celebration online, Saturday, February 13 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

This will be a free event, open to the public. The event is designed for everyone to enjoy. Though this year the Chinese Arts Alliance of Nashville will miss seeing everyone in person, the online platform will allow viewers to see the event at the comfort of their home. This time around will be the celebration of the Year of the Ox.

The first hour will be a presentation that includes dancing, singing, drumming and professional musicians. There will be performances by Wu Fei, virtuoso Zhen musician, Bob Tigert, with Nashville Ukulele Society, and Playing By Air; a professional juggling group. Viewers will also see CAAN’s lion dancers, dragon dancers, and Chinese dancers.

During the second hour there will be a set of interactive, online workshops. The audience can join one, or several, of these workshops. The workshops include Chinese Naming, Chinese Arts & Crafts, Kung Fu, TaiChi Basics, Learn to Sing GongXi Song, Easy Chinese Conversations, and HandEyeBody Juggling Workshop.

The registration is free at the CAAN’s website: ChineseArtsAlliance.org. Registration just takes one click. Afterwards there will be links to allow access to all of the programs.

The main program will be 1:00-2:00 p.m. consisting of Drumming, Lion Dance, Dragon Dance, Chinese Music, Chinese Songs, and Juggling.

Afterwards there will be a Session A (starting at 2:00-2:30 p.m.) and a Session B (starting at 2:30-3:00 p.m.)

These will be interactive workshops of the viewers choice: Chinese Naming, Chinese New Year Arts and Crafts, Kung Fu, Tai Chi Basics, Sing “Gong Xi”, Easy Chinese Conversations, HandEyeBody Juggling Workshop.

Chinese Arts Alliance of Nashville hope is everyone will be as strong and resilient as an ox while staying healthy.
BONE McALLESTER NORTON PLLC

Bethany Vanhooser has joined Bone McAllester Norton PLLC as the firm’s newest attorney. She graduated from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville College of Law in May 2020 and served as editor-in-chief of the Tennessee Law Review.

“We are pleased to welcome Bethany to our Nashville office,” said President and CEO Charles R. Bone. “The firm is excited to hire young, dedicated attorneys to help us grow our litigation law practice to practice fresh perspectives to our clients. Bethany’s passion for the law and dedication to her work make her an excellent addition to our team.”

Prior to her recent role, Vanhooser worked at Bone McAllester Norton as a summer associate. She also served as law clerk at the University of Tennessee Office of the General Counsel for two years and as a summer associate at Wootl, McClane, Bright, Allen & Carpenter PLLC in Knoxville.

During law school, Vanhooser was a teaching assistant for Legal Process and a member of the Law Women organization. Upon graduation, she was invited to be a member of the university’s Order of the Coif honor society. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics and political science and her master's degree in public policy and administration from the University of Tennessee.

Bone McAllester Norton PLLC is one of Nashville's largest law firms, with 23 distinct practice areas. The firm traces its roots back to 1978 when Charles W. Bone, Sam McAllester and Mike Norton first joined forces to practice law. More than two decades later, in 2002, these lawyers along with Stacey Garrett Koju joined together to form Bone McAllester Norton. With offices located in Nashville, Hendersonville and Franklin, its attorneys work closely with clients on business and litigation matters across the country.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Dee Patel is the Managing Director of The Hermitage Hotel where he has been employed for more than 16 years. He was named General Manager in 2014 and then Managing Director in 2019—the first female to serve in both of these leadership roles in the hotel’s 110-year history. In addition to her work at The Hermitage Hotel, Patel was named President by the Nashville Chapter of the Les Dames d’Escoffier International. An advocate for women and diversity, Patel is a member of the International Women’s Forum of Tennessee and organizes plans for the 19th amendment centennial celebration in 2020.

A Native Nashvillian, Sam Patel is a hotel and commercial real estate developer and manager and is also locally and regionally involved in the restaurant, technology and manufacturing industries. He is professionally and culturally active in the Middle Tennessee community, formerly serving on the Metropolitan Government’s Nashvilles Davidson County’s Convention Center Commission and the Transportation Licensing Commission. Sam is an active member of the Asian American Hotel Owners Association (AAHAA).

Devy Pitts has been a Nashville resident for close to 30 years. She worked as a health care executive specializing in turnarounds and restructurings of troubled organizations prior to devoting her time to supporting and improving the Nashville community. She has held volunteer positions with respected organizations like the Nashville Symphony, The American Heart Association, The Elephant Sanctuary, The Hermitage, The Good Dog Foundation (New York), The Junior League and Girls on the Run, to name a few.

Josh Trusley is a Partner at Ernst & Young where he has been employed for 17 years. He leads audit engagements for public and private companies, including companies that assist companies with capital raising activities and leads consulting engagements related to the deployment of new technologies. He serves on Cheekwood’s Finance Committee and was a member of Nashville Business Journal’s 40 under 40 in 2018.

Linde Wilson is an active and influential volunteer in the Nashville community. She has served on boards and in volunteer positions with respected organizations and schools like Nashville Library, Nashville Library Foundation, University School of the South, Montgomery Bell Academy, Harpeth Hall, University of Nashville, Vanderbilt University, Blair School of Music and Warner Parks. Formerly, Wilson worked as a Librarian at Vander University Central and Medical Libraries and the University of South Alabama’s Medical Library as well as two years in the Library at Cheekwood.

Fridrich & Clark Realty

Fridrich & Clark Realty recently announced the addition of agent Julie Riven Dretler to the firm, according to Steve Fridrich, broker and managing partner.

Dretler is a new broker who will work out of the firm’s Green Hills office. Her addition brings the total number of Realtors at Fridrich & Clark Realty to 171.

“We are pleased to welcome Julie’s broad and national sales and marketing experience to our firm,” said Fridrich. “In addition to seeing our profession grow and her career develop, we will also benefit from her enthusiasm and perspective, which expand our approach to real estate sales.”

Dretler is a Nashville native and a graduate of Tulane University, where she studied Communications. She returns to Nashville from New York where most recently she was Vice President of Marketing at Bravo Media (an NBC Universal Company).

She has served in leadership and fundraising roles with a number of Nashville institutions, including The Frist Museum, Ensworth, Nashville Zoo, Harpeth Hall, Cheekwood, and Blake McMeans Foundation.

Dretler is a member of the National Association of REALTORS®, the Tennessee Association of REALTORS® and the Greater Nashville REALTORS®.

Fridrich & Clark Realty, founded in 1984, has long been known to be the area’s largest locally-owned realty firm, with more than 170 agents.

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP is pleased to announce that Mike Krause is joining the firm’s Nashville office as a senior advisor in Bradley’s Government Affairs and Economic Development practice groups.

“We are extremely pleased to welcome Mike as a senior advisor. His leadership, business acumen and economic development,” said Bradley Managing Partner and Chairman of the Board Jonathan Sketeer. “Mike has more than a decade of experience in Tennessee state government advocating before the General Assembly and serving as a senior Executive Branch official in two administrations. He will be a tremendous asset to the firm.”

Krause represents clients before the executive and legislative branches of government in both Tennessee and Washington, D.C. He is the executive director of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC). Mr. Krause served as the chief advocate before the legislature and executive branch for the state’s $2.1 billion higher education budget and successfully launched multiple workforce training programs resulting in Tennessee being recognized as the top higher education agency in the nation in 2020 by the State Higher Education Executive Officers Association. Most recently, Mr. Krause served as the coordinator for all statewide higher education efforts relative to COVID-19 and acted as the liaison between campuses and the Tennessee Department of Health and the governor’s Unified Command Group during the pandemic.

Prior to his role with THEC, Mr. Krause served as a senior staff member for the office of Gov. Bill Haslam as an executive director for Tennessee Promise.

A frequent commentator in the media, his work has been covered by Politico, The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, NPR, and CNN. Mr. Krause received a Master of Public Policy from Vanderbilt University’s School of Public Policy and a B.A. in Government and Public Administration from Austin Peay State University. He also served in the United States Army as a member of the 101st Airborne Division.

Bradley combines skilled counsel, client service and unwavering integrity to assist a diverse range of corporate and individual clients in achieving their business goals. With offices in Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Tennessee, Texas, and the District of Columbia, the firm’s over 500 lawyers represent regional, national and international clients in various industries, including financial services, healthcare, life sciences, real estate, construction, technology, energy, insurance, and entertainment, among many others.

Cheekwood

Cheekwood welcomes eight new Board Trustees whose initial three-year term which began January 1, 2021. The board members include:

Molly Taylor Gallagher is a member of Gulfard, Sanford, Robinson, and Martin, PLLC where she chairs the Employment Law Section. In addition to general business litigation, Gallagher focuses her practice on the defense of employers in the railroad, transportation and healthcare industries in federal and state courts throughout the United States. Among many leadership positions, she is currently the Nashville Downtown Partnerships Board of Directors, the Advisory Board of Girls on the Run of Middle Tennessee, the Alumni Council and the Dean’s Circle of the University of Tennessee College of Law. She is also on the Executive Committee of the National Association of Railroad Trial Counsel.

Judge Alberto R. Gonzales is presently Dean and Doyle Rogers Distinguished Professor of Law at Belmont University College of Law. Formerly, he served as the Nation’s 80th Attorney General under President George W. Bush and was with the president in Washington on September 11, 2001. Among his many professional associations Judge Gonzales is a member of the American Law Institute, former member of the Executive Officers Association.

Judge Dretler is a new broker who will work out of the firm’s Green Hills office. Her addition brings the total number of Realtors at Fridrich & Clark Realty to 171.

“We are pleased to add Julie’s broad and national sales and marketing experience to our firm,” said Fridrich. “In addition to seeing our profession grow and her career develop, we will also benefit from her enthusiasm and perspective, which expand our approach to real estate sales.”

Dretler is a Nashville native and a graduate of Tulane University, where she studied Communications. She returns to Nashville from New York where most recently she was Vice President of Marketing at Bravo Media (an NBC Universal Company).

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Dretler is a member of the National Association of REALTORS®, the Tennessee Association of REALTORS® and the Greater Nashville REALTORS®.

Fridrich & Clark Realty, founded in 1984, has long been known to be the area’s largest locally-owned realty firm, with more than 170 agents.
Baptism is essential to Salvation

Romans 6:3 Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death?

Colossians 2:12 ...having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

1 Corinthians 12:13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Galatians 3:27 For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

1 Peter 3:21 Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you—not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience—through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Mark 16:16 He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.

John 3:5 Jesus answered, “ Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

~ A Concerned Christian
Today I went to Lowe’s and Walmart in West Nashville and was sickened. It has been a while since I went near there in the winter when the leaves are all off the trees. I encourage readers to go see what I saw. Behind Bojangles in the area that was designed to be a nice walking trail, it is littered with filth, and dozens of tents and tarps spread around the trash littered area. It looks like the streets of San Fransisco, CA as they show it on the news. Nasty looking wineo’s, two guys fighting, trash spread all over what used to be a walking trail. In the midst of it was a Metro sign proclaiming that John Cooper and Dave Rosenberg, the Mayor and Councilman were developing some sort of facility. The Mayor and Councilman Cooper and Dave Rosenburg, and as absent close to as low classed as the Mayor and Councilman were developing some sort of facility.

Megan Berry, and as absent close to as low classed as the Mayor and Councilman were developing some sort of facility.

Cooper has so far been close to as low classed as Megan Berry, and as absent close to as low classed as the Mayor and Councilman were developing some sort of facility.

Sickening behavior ticks me off

While watching TV advertisements and commercials asking for donations from citizens to help our disabled veterans. This idea that soldiers sacrificed their lives and bodies while the elected politicians turn their heads to spend tax money all over the world. It’s their job to take care of the people that they put in harms way. Elected people asked for volunteers to fight a war that was not in the country’s best interest for almost twenty years. But federal elected people such as Pelosi, Shumer, Bush, Obama, Biden, Kerry and others spend money world over on illegal wars others that don’t work. It’s awful to see our soldiers come home mangled, burned and disabled. Our wounded have little to look forward to. Minds mangled andmost and all will be hurting the rest of their lives. Our people missing arms, legs, eyes, and burned to disfigurement.

The government lets everyone turn their heads on the problem by not accepting responsibility of damage done to our people needlessly. Everything should be paid by the government. Our Federal limits health care while paying their party friends high salaries where politicians accept donations. Yes, even let us see war on solid concrete. Our politicians never think in a veteran’s place. The veteran speaking was handsome, able to find love, ability to make something of my life and now I have to change my plans because I volunteered to serve my country. Our elected politicians have rebuilt countries all over the middle east for our enemies and won’t build houses that meets the needs of our veterans. Guns at “peaceful” protests?

I was in the infantry in the Army and have fired many different types of weapons. I have a 9mm pistol and a 12 gauge shotgun. But I don’t understand the need to carry rifles to “peaceful” protests. If you are so inclined, please reply so I may better understand.

Response to- Can we please move on?

In response to the recent comments, ‘Can we please move on...’ I will answer that for you. You say there was no fraud, but about 75 million people see it differently. Sure, Biden may have won fair and square, but if so, why is everyone so scared to even look at the evidence? You know, they would want to have it all looked at, to prove they won fair and square. You may be saying, there is no evidence, but there are over 1000 people that signed affidavits that illegal actions were going on, that means if they are lying, they will be criminally charged. The anomalies of every vote coming after they stopped counting, and then started recounting (and, why were they allowed to do that anyway?) were all for Biden, is just so improbable. But, that is just circumstantial evidence sure, but if you want real evidence look at the incredible 60 page work of the Navarro Report with cited evidence. It may be a painful read for you. All Trump voters ever wanted was for the evidence to be looked at, because fair elections are essential to a free society. Every person, no matter what party should want this! 2) can we please move on? Sure-how about the Democrats quit the impeachment of a civilian, that is not even constitutional?! Talk about not moving on. Do you really think it is Trump’s fault for the horrific events on the 6th? Well, sure you do, you said so. Go back and listen to his speech-oh, that was happening at the same exact time as the break-in (so, how did he incite it?) where he tells everyone there to “peacefully” protest? Get it, peacefully; he said. Oh, then there is the Corona virus. Sure, he made some mistakes, as did all involved that were being lied to by the scientists. But, Trump could do NO right. When he stopped flights from coming in (which was the right thing to do), he was called a racist (which we heard for 4 years by...
the media, no wonder everyone believes it), while Nancy Pelosi was trotting around China Town, probably being a super spreader. We live in very dangerous times in this country. The free exchange of ideas makes a society better; but one political side is trying to silence another by canceling them, firing them, Big Tech silencing them. And, it is not coming from the side that was called a tyrant for four years. Shades of 1933 Germany- they never thought what happened to them would happen either, but it started the same way... silencing a group of people... Lord have mercy on us.

Failed Remedial Economics

Councilman: I have previously written to you about mayor’s tax increase and supported by the council. This increase was levied after the tornado, the virus and then the closure of business. This would illustrate that the mayor or the council took Remedial Economics in grade school or if they did they failed the course.

I, for one will not forget that when voting time comes around, however, that is not the reason for this note.

Upset as I have been, I went to the Howard office building to pay the property taxes due for this year, but as is said in the Night Before Christmas “what to my wondering eyes should appear” in this case the Trustee’s Office was closed, and had been for a month. This information was given to me by the guard to the building. How are we to pay taxes? December is the real revenue month for the collection of taxes. Who is checking the mail? The last time I was in there they were putting up plastic shields for the employees.

If it is important that business offices should be closed during the Mayor’s edict then put in the council the motion that as long as that is an effect that all elected officials’ salary be likewise cut until the edict is retracted or canceled.

Come on Fifth Third Bank, don’t you want my business?

A friend of mine told me of a recent promotion Fifth Third Bank was doing where if you open a checking account and deposit a particular sum of money for 90 days, you will receive $600. The promotion sounded far better than just leaving my money in a regular savings account which is getting basically very little interest.

So I called the local Fifth Third branch office and asked them when would the promotion be ending and that I wanted to come by to open a new account and deposit the required amount and take advantage of receiving $600. The clerk ended up saying that without a promotion code which they send through the mail, they would not be able to open an account under this particular promotion. So I asked to talk with another person and they ended up saying the same thing. Then I called another branch office on the other side of town and guess what, they said the same thing about I would have to be mailed the promotion with the code that comes with it before anything can be done. I replied, “don’t you want my business?” and they apologized but said there was nothing more they could but the clerk said I could try looking online. So I tried looking online and there was no code to be found. I did find a customer service number and after holding for what seemed 20 minutes, I finally got someone to answer; only to find that there was nothing they could do about it. I asked if there was a way of getting on the mailing list to receive this promotion and they could offer no advice in even doing that.

So this whole situation has been ridiculous that they would turn my business down just because I did not receive a promo code in the mail but my where as my friend did. To me that is not good business.

Here we go again

Our government leaders, particularly Mayor Cooper, continue to make the same mistakes in trying to prevent the spread of Covid. Just as Nashville was making some significant progress in making the data appear to be more positive, now instead of doubling down to continue doing what appears to be making the data improve, Mayor Cooper is now letting bars and restaurants stay open an hour later each day. Actually, they will stay open even longer as we have seen that the bar owners across the city pay little attention to stated closing times and close up to an hour later many times. The city and Metro PD have refused to enforce consistent -ly the established closing times. Mayor Cooper says that community spread in households is our biggest problem. That is probably true but the person that brings it home to others has to get from somewhere. Bars and restaurants where most people are not wearing masks is a major source and super spreader. I hope that we have gotten away from the Trump approach, but apparently Mayor Cooper is still following his plan. Mayor, please do not take your foot off the gas. Protect all of us!

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELESS SECURITY

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Proposed Flood Hazard Determinations for Davidson County, Tennessee and Incorporated Areas

The Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency has issued a preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), and where applicable, Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report, reflecting proposed flood hazard determinations within Davidson County and Incorporated Areas. These flood hazard determinations may include the addition or modification of Base Flood Elevations, base flood depths, Special Flood Hazard Area boundaries or zone designations, or the regulatory floodway. Technical information or comments are solicited on the proposed flood hazard determinations shown on the preliminary FIRM and/or FIS report for Davidson County and Incorporated Areas. These flood hazard determinations are the basis for the floodplain management measures that your community is required to either adopt or show evidence of being already in effect in order to qualify or remain qualified for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. However, before these determinations are effective for floodplain management purposes, you will be provided an opportunity to appeal the proposed information. For information on the statutory 90-day period provided for appeals, as well as a complete listing of the communities affected and the locations where copies of the FIRM are available for review, please visit FEMA’s website at: https://www.floodmaps.fema.gov/fhm/BFE_Status/bfe_main.asp, or call the FEMA Mapping and Insurance eXchange (FMIX) toll free at 1-877-FEMA MAP (1-877-336-2627).
Tax law is NOT simple. That is probably an understatement. Most people understand that personal circumstances have a great deal to do with the answers given to any tax inquiry. The favorite series of questions include: who, what, where, when and how. Also, how much? A single answer to most tax questions is not easily given. There are factors that affect the circumstances of most legal situations. As a case in point, recently a client asked about the sale of real estate. Every sale of real estate has varying idiosyncrasies. (I had to ask Seri how to spell that one.) For example: what kind of property are you selling? Is it rental property? Was it depreciated? Did it have a mortgage? There are many more questions depending upon the circumstances of the sale and use of the asset.

The sale of rental property creates a myriad of questions to be considered. Profits from such sales are subject to capital gains tax since such sales do not allow the same exclusions that are allowed with the sale of a personal residence. However, given that the Internal Revenue Service allows a deduction for the amount paid for closing costs and for property improvements to both reduce the selling price and increase the purchase cost, the profit might not be as large as expected. On the other hand, depreciation recapture might leave cause an additional unexpected tax bill. The amount of capital gains on sale of rental property will largely be determined by the length of time it was owned and the specific tax bracket the seller is in following the sale.

Adjusted Cost Basis

To determine the cost of the home, start with the original purchase price. Add most of the closing costs paid when it was bought. Mortgage related costs are not considered in this calculation. If the original cost of the rental property was $85,000, plus $1,200 in title costs, $750 in legal fees, and $1,800 for the mortgage, the cost would be $96,950, which encompasses everything except the mortgage.

Add the cost of any improvements that were made to the house. An improvement is anything that increases the value, changes its use or makes it last longer, and includes everything from adding a swimming pool to replacing a roof to renovating a bathroom.

Replacement of the roof for $9,000 and $10,500 on a kitchen remodel, that would add $19,500 to the $96,950 cost to find a total adjusted basis of $116,450.

What Is Depreciation Recapture?

Depreciation recapture is the gain realized by the sale of depreciable capital property that must be reported as ordinary income for tax purposes. Depreciation recapture is assessed when the sale price of an asset exceeds the tax basis or adjusted cost basis. The difference between these figures is thus “recaptured” by reporting it as ordinary income. This is where you call the CPA and ask, what is this and why? Depreciation divides the cost associated with the use of an asset over a number of years. The IRS publishes specific depreciation schedules for different classes of assets. The schedules tell a taxpayer what percentage of an asset’s value may be deducted each year and the number of years for which the deductions may be taken.

For tax purposes, annual depreciation expense lowers the ordinary income that a company or individual pays each year and reduces the adjusted cost basis of the asset. If the depreciated asset is disposed of or sold for a gain, the ordinary income tax rate will be applied to the amount of the depreciation expense previously taken on the asset.

Depreciation recapture is a tax provision that allows the IRS to collect taxes on any profitable sale of an asset that the taxpayer had used to previously offset taxable income. Since depreciation of an asset can be used to deduct ordinary income, any gain from the disposal of the asset must be reported and taxed as ordinary income, rather than the more favorable capital gains tax rate. My suggestion is that you do not try to sell business property without professional assistance. You have our number; give us a call.

For more information, call Wilson & Wilson, P.C., CPA, CFE at 615-673-1339 or email jim@wilsonandwilson-cpa.com
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#3204 $849,000
MLS# 2221090 – Gorgeous 1,071 SF, 2 BR 2 BA with full kitchen and balcony. Beautifully appointed. Co-listed with Lisa Peebles, Compass.

#4503 $5,000,000
Design your 2-level penthouse. Unfinished “warm box” 3,661 SF, 3 BR, 3 ½ BA
MLS# 2210197 – Offering $1 million design & construction allowance. Bring your architect/designer to create your fully customized dream home. Enjoy unparalleled floor-to-ceiling views of the iconic Nashville skyline from this 2-story, corner penthouse on the 45th floor. Plus private, 6-car garage. [Representational photos show a fully finished penthouse of a similar size.] Co-listed with Lisa Peebles, Compass.

#3204 $5,000,000
Design your 2-level penthouse. Unfinished “warm box” 3,661 SF, 3 BR, 3 ½ BA
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Aerie 505, #4502 $10,000,000
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Well, pro football fans, Tom Brady is headed to his 10th Super Bowl. But this time, he is going without the Patriots. While Patriots football is my passion, real estate is my job, and Tom Brady has shown that the “location, location, location” theory has no place in the NFL. Once Brady left, the worth of Gillette Stadium declined, but the cornerstone of the Patriots, Tom Brady, went to Raymond James Stadium and its value increased immediately. If a Santa Fe, New Mexico, mansion was relocated to Santa Fe, Tennessee, it would not have the same value. Brady defies real estate logic. Unlike a valuable piece of real estate, Brady remains a valuable commodity regardless of the location of his home team. A great player is a great player. A great piece of real estate is a great piece of real estate regardless of what is built upon it.

Brady can throw that “location, location, location” thing through the end zone. Wherever he is, he is worth more than any other quarterback. Sure, he is older, but he has sustained the test of time and his character and charm, not to mention his talent have endured for years.

Buying new construction seems safer as there are fewer things to break and everything is sparkling, similar to a #1 draft pick. But draft picks are unknown commodities. How will they fare in the violence of the NFL? Will they be able to endure the physicality and mental challenges? Brady has proven himself time and time again throughout his illustrious, 21 seasons and now his tenth Super Bowl.

The same goes for new construction. There are no stains to be found, freshness and optimism abounds, and the home should last a lifetime. Like the new draft choice, it is unproven. The first rain could show drainage problems, perhaps the fence is six inches over the sideline. It may not last 30 years, like the updated 60-year-old house.

New England fans might agree that Brady’s teammates, in his final years with the Pats, were nowhere near as good as those who won six Super Bowls with him. Players had moved on and those that were left were either just not as good or clearly past their prime. The Buccaneers, like a renovated house with the latest features and updates, were a team full of young, talented and promising players. The Bucs were lacking the solid foundation. Brady provided that. Now they are on good footing with updated features.

Recently the G.O.A.T. of Nashville real estate (Richard Courtney) and I placed a property under contract in Forest Hills. The buyer plans to tear down the existing (outdated) house and replace it with a beautifully designed home that will complement its surroundings and feature the latest amenities. Perhaps he should consider keeping the foundation.

Like Brady, the lot will be the same, it will just have a better house on it!

The writer is a New England native, ardent Pats, Sox, Celts & B’s fan and has been a Nashville resident for over 16 years with his wife Amy Seigenthaler and their three children, Veronica, Frank and Mary Alice. He is a licensed Realtor at Fridrich & Clark and a proud member of the Richard Courtney team.
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