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Adam Booth, a purveyor of Southern storytelling with a modern twist, will soon serve as the next teller in residence for Storytelling Live!, the International Storytelling Center’s signature performance series.

For each week during ISC’s six-month seasonal series, a new storyteller will be invited to Jonesborough for daily concerts and storytelling activities for the week. The program runs through the end of October.

Booth, who is a college professor at Shepherd University, specializes in Appalachian studies. In many ways, it’s a program that’s centered on tradition, but in others, it’s changing with the times. “A lot of my students, and people throughout Appalachia, call themselves Appalachian, but they’re not quite sure what it means anymore,” Booth says. “There was a much more accepted definition 50 years ago, and now it has changed quite a bit.”

During his week in Jonesborough, Booth plans to share a number of elaborate new stories centered on his idea of what he calls the “New South.” He’ll also bring a wide variety of stories that pay tribute to other storytellers and folk musicians.

“I’ll be performing a new piece called ‘Smoke!'” Booth says. “I created it after the work of Jay O’Callahan, and dedicated it to him, too. It is a triptych from three parts of my life: a chimney sweep’s visit to my grandmother’s house, a parade seen from my great grandparents’ furniture store, and halftime at homecoming my senior year. Several elements stitch the stories together, including various forms of smoke and marching bands.”

Booth will also tell a variety of personal and family-oriented tales, as well as original tall tales and reconsiderations of old Southern lore.

During his weeklong residency, Tuesday through Saturday, June 26 – 30, Booth will offer daily matinees beginning at 2 p.m. All performances will take place in the Mary B. Martin Storytelling Hall, on Main Street in downtown Jonesborough.

Tickets for all matinees are just $12 for adults, and $11 for seniors, students, and anyone under 18. Heavily discounted season passes are still available for a limited time. Advance purchase is recommended for all performances.

All ticketholders can present their ticket stubs for a 10 percent discount on same-day dining at JJ’s Eatery and Ice Cream; Main Street Café (lunch only); Medley Vegan Vegetarian; Olde Towne Pancake House; and The Corner Cup. Boone Street Market is offering 10 percent off prepared meals and 5 percent off any other purchase.

Storytelling Live! runs from May through the end of October, with daily matinees Tuesday through Saturday and special programming like evening concerts and workshops scheduled throughout the season.

Information about all performers, as well as a detailed schedule for 2018, is available at www.storytelling-center.net. The premier sponsor of Storytelling Live! is Ballad Health. Additional program funding comes from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Tennessee Arts Commission, the Niswonger Foundation, Eastman Credit Union, and Food City. Media sponsors include News 5-WCYB, FOX Tri-Cities, Tri-Cities CW, Johnson City Press, Kingsport Times-News, Herald & Tribune, and Cumulus Media. The International Storytelling Center is open 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday. For more information about Storytelling Live! or to make a group reservation, call (800) 952-8392 ext. 222 or (423) 913-1276.
Whether you are an Ad Man housing documents for your latest pitch; a graduate student storing a laptop with yesterday’s assignment; or a Generation Zer needing to put away your 1,993rd fidget spinner; we all need Satchel Supply.

Of course this does not mean you should limit to carrying your essential items to a satchel—I just prefer some healthy article alliteration in my life. Anyways, let’s get back to some backpacks.

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**Chromatic Carry**

The mustard briefcase and olive green messenger bag is ideal for the type of man that desires a dapper disposition, while adding a freshness with a subtle pop of color.
3  Appalachian Storyteller: Adam Booth to Host Concert Series
6  City Announces Pet Calendar Photo Contest
7  Sudha Yoga
8  4th of July Events
11  Fl3tch3r Exhibit Call for Entries
13  Hot Nights, Cool Music
15  DNA
16  Letter from Believe in Bristol’s Executive Director
17  Letter from Paramount’s Executive Director
18  A Night Out in Bristol
20  Nerf War
23  Breakfast Club
25  Jonesborough Days
27  Puzzle Page
28  Acoustic Syndicate
29  Putt Putt for a Cure
30  S.T.R.A.W.S Thriftique
31  Things to Do
34  Pets of the Week
35  Runs, Car Shows & Bike Nights

4  Mister
8  Pop Life
14  Stargazer
21  Batteries Not Included
22  The Nerd’s Corner
28  The Casual Word
32  Skies This Week
26  Kelly’s Place

1968: Rock n Roll’s Greatest Year?
City announces Pet Calendar Contest

The 2019 Bristol Tennessee “Pawtraits” Pet Calendar Contest is now underway. Anyone who owns a doggie, and lives within the city limits of Bristol, Tennessee, is encouraged to participate in the contest. Entries will be accepted from Friday, June 15, 2018 until Wednesday, August 1, 2018 at 2 PM.

Twelve photos will be chosen to be featured in the 2019 Bristol Tennessee “Pawtraits” Calendar. Each of the 12 winners will be awarded a mini photo shoot of their pet. One pet will be featured as the “cover pet” for the calendar.

“We are so excited about the calendar contest. It is a great opportunity to share pictures of your fur-buddies with the community,” said April Norris, who is spearheading the contest for Bristol’s Parks and Recreation Department. “The contest is super-easy to enter, so everyone needs to log on to Bristol Tennessee’s website and start competing.”

The contest also provides another way for pet lovers to celebrate and bond with their pets. Taking pictures of one’s pet is a beautiful way to observe the little changes as they grow over the years.

A panel of judges will review all photos to select the winning photos based on originality and artistic merit. The calendar will be available by November 2018. Details will be announced, at a later date, on where the calendars may be picked up. To find out more about the contest please go to www.bristoltn.org and click on 2019 Pawtraits Calendar Contest for a full list of rules. If you would like to speak to someone about the contest please contact April Norris at 423-764-7900 or anorris@bristoltn.org.
Yoga Sudha celebrates their first anniversary next month. We got a chance to chat with proprietor Sudha Venkataraman about yoga in general and her practice in particular.

She is from India and had the honor of getting her yoga certification from the world-renowned Yoga Research Institute in India. There is no question that yoga has been gaining popularity in the United States and around the world for a number of years now. That’s a good thing! Yoga is a healthy integrated activity that almost anyone can enjoy.

Yoga Sudha has a team of teachers who bring many styles and levels of teaching. We asked her for a couple of examples. The first is called Vinyasa. This is a sequence of poses moved through with the breath. It helps tone the body and open the mind. Vinyasa is an energetic class bringing increased vitality and clarity for those who choose to ride the movement led by the breath. In this class, the base form of the sun salutation sequence is expanded and takes you through a variety of peak poses. Yoga Sudha also offers chair yoga, another of the myriad ways an individual can get some good from the endeavor.

Another good example: Yoga is a wonderful tool for managing back pain and it also has a preventative effect. A regular yoga practice can rebalance and realign your spine while easing the mental stress that often is a source of physical tension. Yoga for Back Care focuses on movements and postures to lengthen the spine and strengthen the muscles that support it. Whether you’re looking for supplemental therapeutic care or wanting to keep your back healthy after long work days in the garden or at your desk, they hope to see you on Tuesdays at 4:00 pm! To make it affordable to all in the community, Yoga Sudha is offering unlimited classes for past, current or prospective members for just $35 per month.

Yoga Sudha offers over 20 classes each week for all demographics; they even have selected free classes for Silver Sneakers card holders. For their first anniversary celebration they are having an open house for the public with food and free yoga classes on Saturday, July 14th. Give Sudha a call at 423-646-1958 or visit her website, www.yogasudhacenter.com and get your personalized regimen going. Your back and body will thank you!
Elizabethton TN

Independence on the Frontier: Militia Muster at Fort Watauga (Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park) Saturday, June 30 from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm and Sunday, July 1 from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. Experience the 4th of July, 18th century-style! What did colonists think about a new nation? Be a guest in Fort Watauga as news of Independence arrives to the colonial frontier. Walk among historical characters and hear their varied reactions to the Declaration, from fear of war to the hope of a brighter future. The Celebration will take place on Saturday; the muster will continue until 3 pm on Sunday.

Greenville TN

The sixth annual American Downtown 4th of July celebration will offer many ways to be entertained. The Waste Industries Main Stage and the gazebo stage in the Big Spring area will showcase musical acts of country, Southern rock, gospel bluegrass and more. American Downtown kicks off at 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 4, with a parade from Towne Square Shopping Center to Greeneville High School. The theme will be “A Walk Through the Past,” focusing on local history.

For more information on entering the parade, please contact Amy Rose at Town Hall, 423-639-7105 or arose@greenevilletn.gov, or Chan Humbert at 423-329-7400 or chan.humbert@gmail.com

Abingdon VA

Abingdon celebrates Independence Day June 30, 2018 with a day of family fun Saturday, June 30, 2018 downtown Abingdon will be alive with an All-American Independence Day Extravaganza. This free event takes place at the Abingdon Market Pavilion and along Remsburg Drive in downtown Abingdon. Free activities include a watermelon eating contest, a kids’ craft area, historical reenactors, block party with a foam pit, stilt walkers, antique car show, concert, and firework finale. Food trucks will be present to provide concessions.

The free concert starts at 7:00pm, featuring the gospel-blues and southern soul of Devon Gilfillian. This young songwriter grew up outside of Philadelphia, absorbing everything from the R&B swagger of Al Green and Ray Charles to the rock & roll heroics of Jimi Hendrix. Now based in Nashville, Gilfillian recently had the honor of singing the National Anthem at the NFL Draft, and has been featured as a Rising Artist in Rolling Stone Magazine, for Southwest Airlines as well as countless others. He also headlines several festivals in 2018, including Floyd Fest and Rhythm & Roots Reunion in Bristol.

At 4:00 p.m. the festivities begin with a watermelon eating contest for those ages 5 to 18. Just like any good watermelon eating competition, no hands or other unique equipment are allowed. Contestants should arrive at 3:30pm to sign up, accompanied by their parent or guardian.

For a full schedule of events and activities, visit https://www.abingdonmusicexperience.com/independence-day-extravaganza
33rd Annual Pepsi Independence Day Celebration & Fireworks
5:00 - Food service begins, craft booths open, children's games start (NOTE: Only authorized Food/ Craft vendors will be allowed)
5:30-6:00 pm - Entertainment begins - WXBR DJ's
6:00-6:40 pm - Entertainment - Music by Jimbo Whaley and Greenbriar
6:45-6:50 pm - Tribute to Gold Star Families and Disabled Veterans - Music by New Victory Church
7:00-7:45 pm - Entertainment - Music by Brinley Addington
8:00-8:10 pm - Color Guard; Patriotic songs by Miss Food City Hannah Everhart; Pledge of Allegiance led by Miss Johnson City Morgan Munsey and Miss Historic Jonesborough Emma Brown
8:15-9:15 pm - Entertainment - Music by Mo Pitney (Debut single “Let me tell you about Country”)
9:50 pm - Welcome by Johnson City Commissioner and WXBR musical introduction to fireworks
9:55-10:15 pm - Fireworks by Pyro Shows of LaFollette, TN, News Channel 11 Live Remote and WXBR-FM 96.9 Live Broadcast
10:20-11:00 pm - Entertainment resumes - Music by Brinley Addington
5:00-7:00 pm - On-site registration for a chance to win the 2018 Chevrolet Sonic LS, Anakeesta Super Pack Getaway and Pigeon Forge Super Package
5:00-8:15 pm - Free Park & Ride shuttle bus pickup from ETSU (corner of State of Franklin and University Parkway) and Winged Deer Park parking lot begins
8:15 pm - Park & Ride - Last bus shuttle departs from ETSU and Winged Deer Park
10:20 pm - Free Park & Ride service to ETSU and Winged Deer Park resumes
**The best fireworks show in town will begin at 9:55 pm.
It’s hard to fathom the first film about The Incredibles superhero team was released in 2004. As a result of the long wait, movie fans flocked to the theater to the tune of a $180 million box office opening weekend to view the 3D computer-animated “Incredibles 2”. Apparently not only were fans longing for the return of the animated heroes, but they were desperate for a film fit for kids of all ages. You can rest assured many of the kids in the audience were not even born at the time of the first films theatrical release. Thus kids and their adult companions can at last enjoy another big screen adventure with the superhero Parr family. The family consists of super strength hero Bob (Craig T. Nelson), his wife with stretching abilities Helen (Holly Hunter), children Violet (Sarah Vowell), who can vanish and project force fields, speedster son Dash (Huck Milner), and toddler Jack-Jack (Eli Fucile), who possesses an assortment of powers. The film begins with the failure of the Parr family to defeat villain Underminer despite all their best efforts.

The fight with the Underminer has caused so much damage in the city, officials force the Parr family and all superheroes to adhere to their secret identities, forcing the family to relocate to a motel. Not long after their motel stay, Helen, also known as Elastigirl, is selected to openly fight crime in the city of New Urbem. Upon agreeing to take on fighting crime in the city, the family is moved to a new home, where Bob, Mr. Incredible, can look after the kids while Helen is fighting crime in order to win back the favor of the public and city officials. Bob is fine with the arrangement until he discovers Jack-Jack has super powers, but struggles with controlling the tot. Deciding he desperately needs help with Jack-Jack, Bob reaches out to superhero-costume designer and family friend Edna Mode (Brad Bird). Edna keeps Jack-Jack for awhile and designs a costume for the super-powered toddler. While Edna is helping Bob, Helen confronts the villain Screenslaver (what a great name for a super villain!), but all does not go as planned, and soon the entire Parr family is involved in the fight against the dastardly foe. The fight culminates in the expected victory, and will most certainly lead to a sequel, of which one hopes we don’t have to wait 14 years to enjoy.

The plot of the film is clever and fast paced, but allows for plenty of opportunity for all the characters to have moments to shine. The film has one especially shocking twist, which only adds to the excitement of the proceedings. I really enjoyed all the characters in this sequel, but the film is stolen by the characters of Edna and Jack-Jack. The scenes between the designer and toddler are priceless and hilarious, leaving me wanting the two to have a film of their own. Overall, “Incredibles 2” provides for a fun time at the movies for the entire family, and is a welcome respite from the heat of summer and the current depressing political scene. Welcome back Incredibles! (There has been an alert issued due to the film containing a sequence of flashing lights that may affect people with photosensitive epilepsy)

(Rated PG) *** 1/2
FL3TCH3R Exhibit: Art & Activism 2018 exhibit accepting submissions through Aug. 22, adds new award, announces David Carson as juror

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn. — In 2009, senior East Tennessee State University Art & Design student Fletcher Dyer was in a fatal motorcycle accident. In 2012, a visual art exhibition illustrating timely and timeless social and political issues was established in Fletcher’s memory because of his passionate interest in drawing attention to contemporary issues.

In 2018, the international FL3TCH3R Exhibit: Social and Politically Engaged Art will enter its sixth year of sustaining that legacy. The exhibit will be on display at ETSU’s Reece Museum Oct. 8 to Dec. 14, with expanded awards and a fully vested scholarship base.

In 2018, the directors of the 2018 FL3TCH3R Exhibit have issued their Call for Entries to artists through Aug. 22, 2018, with an extended deadline of Aug. 31.

A non-refundable fee of $40 is required for submission of up to three entries, with an additional $10 fee per artwork/title over three. Artists should submit entries online or consult the prospectus, which can be found at www.FL3TCH3Rexhibit.com/downloads/prospectus.pdf. The extended deadline, with an additional fee, is Aug. 31, 2018.

A portion of the entry fees funds the Fletcher Hancock Dyer BFA Graphic Design Scholarship Award.

This year, FL3TCH3R directors — ETSU Art & Design Professor M. Wayne Dyer, attorney Barbara Dyer and graphic designer and educator Carrie Dyer — are celebrating a milestone in the endowing of the exhibit scholarship. The scholarship has reached the minimum amount to be endowed through the ETSU Foundation, says College of Arts & Sciences Development Director Michael Webb.

“We are very gratified that we’ve met our first milestone to contribute to the education of Art & Design students at ETSU through scholarships provided by FL3TCH3R Exhibit supporters,” Barb Dyer says.

“Our family is deeply touched, our hearts are filled with hope, and in essence, the whole FL3TCH3R Exhibit community has made this possible. Each artist or designer who has entered the exhibit each year has contributed to this goal.”

While an exciting milestone in funding has been met, “It’s just the beginning,” Wayne Dyer says. “We would like to expand the scholarship to more students as the fund allows. We hope the exhibit will allow more expression for artists working in arts commentary as well as support emerging students of art and design. This is just the first milestone!”

Artists who submit entries will not only get to express their concerns about societal issues and support student artists, but they also will be considered for a number of FL3TCH3R Exhibit awards, which now total nearly $1,000. The newest award — the Healthcare & the Arts Award, established by 2016 juror and artist Dr. Eric Avery — recognizes visual artists who are also in healthcare professions. More information is on the exhibit website.

Entries for the 2018 FL3TCH3R Exhibit will be selected by internationally renowned American graphic designer, art director and surfer David Carson, who is the most Googled graphic designer in history. Carson, whose design company has offices in New York and Los Angeles, is best known for his innovative magazine design and experimental typography that has been widely imitated.

Carson’s work has been published in more than 150 magazine and newspaper articles around the world, including The New York Times, Eye, Idea, The Guardian, Metropolis, Wired and Émigré. Smithsonian magazine called him “one of America’s most important artists” and Graphic Design USA listed Carson as one of the five “most influential graphic designers of the era.”

“Everybody in design knows who David Carson is,” Wayne Dyer says. “I always felt he would be a great person to have as a FL3TCH3R juror but we didn’t imagine that we would actually get him on board.”

Carson will be considering FL3TCH3R submissions from the following categories: audio/sound, ceramics, digital, fiber, glass, graphic design, jewelry/metals, mixed media (2D), mixed media (3D), painting, performance/installation (via video), photography, printmaking, sculpture, video/film and other.

In the five years of the exhibit, nearly 1,900 entries have been considered from 20 countries, including the U.S.

“From micro to macro we feel this exhibit has the ability to transcend space and time,” Barb Dyer says. “Through our beloved Fletcher, we have been able to help the creative community grow and bring awareness to important issues that impact our society.”

The FL3TCH3R Exhibit is truly a mission for the Dyers. “Especially in these times, our family, more than ever, knows we need to keep the conversation and exhibit going to continue raising funds for more opportunities within the creative arts,” Carrie Dyer says. “Creativity nestled within Art & Design is extremely important for the future of our society, our children and is our way toward innovation and positive change.”

For more information about Fletcher Dyer, visit http://fletcherdyer.com/about.html. For more information about the exhibit and submissions, visit http://www.FL3TCH3Rexhibit.com. For more on Reece Museum, visit www.etsu.edu/reece.
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Anderson ranks among the top acoustic nylon-string guitarists/harp-guitarists in the world. She is the first woman to have won the National Fingerstyle Guitar Championship.

Anderson's recent CD “Nightlight Daylight” won top honors in a dozen awards recognitions. It features her concept – the first ever interactive lighted CD cover – and includes collaborations with her friends and fellow musicians Victor Wooten, Phil Keaggy, Mark Kibble of Take 6, Danny Gottlieb, Stanley Jordan, Tommy Emmanuel, Tierra Negra and members of the Nashville Symphony. She has performed/recorded with Chet Atkins, Les Paul, Victor Wooten and the Nashville Chamber Orchestra. She has been composing since the age of six and has published works for guitar and orchestra, voice, and solo guitar.

Anderson has released more than a dozen instrumental CD's, eight instructional DVD's and guitar books published by Hal Leonard, Mel Bay, and Zen-On Japan. Her compositions include commissioned classical works for the Nashville Chamber Orchestra and Vox Caelestis Women's Choir, as well as songs which have appeared as title tracks for three albums by various artists.

For more information, call 423.279.7669 or jpkelly@northeaststate.edu
There are a lot of strange things that I love about the Moon, and even stranger things that have happened to the rocks taken off the lunar surface by men and machines. And that includes confirmed sex on the Moon...but not exactly what you might think!

The lunar bounty from the American moon voyages more than 40 years ago include 847 pounds of assorted rocks, six-foot deep “core samples” from a dozen drill tubes, and handfuls of soil finer than talcum powder.

More than 700 pounds of alien soil is locked up in the specially built Lunar Sample Laboratory at NASA’s Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. A smaller collection is stored at White Sands Test Facility in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Most of the rocks are stored in nitrogen to keep them free of moisture, and they are handled indirectly with gloves and sterile room conditions, so they are not contaminated.

America has freely shared with the scientific community the spoils of our victory over the Soviet Union in the 1960s Moon Race. Universities, laboratories and observatories around the world have been loaned moon rocks for analysis. Space program educators and teachers numbering in the hundreds have been loaned a thumb-sized lunar rock encased in clear plastic for demonstrations and pass-around. And there are dozens of moon rocks on display in museums and science centers around the world.

Two other sources of Moon materials are the 11 ounces brought back by three robotic missions of the Soviet Union in the 1970s; the other source is meteorites that are found on Earth after being blasted off the Moon millions—maybe billions—of years ago.

So, we know exactly what the Moon is composed of, and for all you chemist types, here is the chemical makeup of lunar soil: Oxygen 40%, Silicon 20%, Iron 12%, Calcium 8.5%, Aluminum 7%, Magnesium 5%, Titanium 5% traces of Sodium, Chromium, Manganese, Potassium, Sulfur and Carbon.

The first moon rocks held in human hands belong to the 47 pounds brought back by Apollo 11 in July 1969. When Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin opened for the first time the aluminum box of rocks inside their moon ship “Eagle,” they said it smelled like gun smoke. Which makes sense when you see the violently smashed surface of the Moon.

President Richard Nixon oddly reapplied the glory of the first Moon landing, talking to the Apollo 11 astronauts as they worked on the surface. The irony is political nemesis President John F. Kennedy challenged America to go to the Moon, yet Nixon’s signature is on the commemorative plaque left on each of the six launch platforms at the Apollo landing sites.

The planting of the American flag by the American astronauts was met with some objections by nations around the world, implying a territorial conquest. But that was not the intent of the US, though the Moon Race with the USSR was a real test of superiority in the eyes of the rest of the world.

To ease the world’s perception of America conquering the Moon, President Nixon used his political influence and gave away chunks of the Moon in 1973. The President told NASA to prepare plaques with several grams of Moon rocks securely attached in an acrylic sphere, which also included the recipients’ flag which was flown in space.

In fact, the “Goodwill Moon Rock” displays were given to 135 countries and all 50 American states. There were another 85 lunar displays made, given to friends and world dignitaries.

Sadly, about 160 of the Goodwill Moon Rocks have been stolen or misplaced. Among the missing are Delaware, New Jersey, Brazil, Canada, Cyprus, Ireland, Malta, Nicaragua, Romania, Spain and Sweden.

There’s no telling where these missing Moon rocks have ended up. They are the biggest celebrities amongst gem collectors, and there is a black market for them. And there have been some thefts uncovered, one involving a sting on the Honduras lunar rock where undercover agents offered $4 million.

But the most famous Moon rock heist involved a young space engineer who promised his girlfriend “the Moon” and delivered.

In 2002, 24-year-old Thad Roberts stole 100 grams (3.5 ounces) of lunar samples from the Houston Lunar Lab, scattered them under on a hotel bed and made love to his girlfriend. The famous episode is chronicled in the book Sex on the Moon: The Amazing Story Behind the Most Audacious Heist in History by Ben Mezrich.

And there are several documentaries shown on television.

In a nutshell, intern Thad Roberts not only stole a dozen Moon rocks out of the Houston Lunar Lab, but he did it by taking the whole safe they were stored in!

The Moon burglar’s accomplices included his girlfriend (who has married) and two other interns. While in negotiations with a Belgian rock collector (which was a sting), Roberts took his girlfriend to a chain motel room where he had placed the Moon rocks under the mattress of the bed. On July 20, 2002, the 33rd anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing, the fugitive couple made love on the bed of Moon rocks.

But the thrill was short-lived when arrested the next day. Roberts served six years in prison for his fulfilled fantasy of having sex on the Moon!

Other known lunar rock thefts include a set of six fragments used for educational programs at the Louisiana Science and Nature Center, and a collection of Moon rocks stolen from the company van while parked in the driveway of a NASA education specialist in Virginia Beach, Virginia. There are legalMoon rocks for sale about the size of a grain of sand that came from a lunar meteorite. (as well as a micro-gram of Mars from Martian meteorites). So just how much does a Moon rock cost? We can do a little math with the 947 pounds of Moon and the agreed upon $40 billion in 1960s dollars for the cost of NASA’s manned space programs of Mercury, Gemini and Apollo. That breaks down to $47.25 million per pound or $2.9 million per ounce or $105,414 per gram of the Apollo booty. In the context of 2015 dollars, you could multiply the figures by ten. But the cost is not the bottom line when it comes to the Apollo moon rocks. The spin-offs from the need to invent new technologies are the real treasure of the incredible Moon Race of the 1960s. The conquest of the Moon led to all the conveniences of today’s 21st Century world. And the precious souvenirs of the Moon are exotic reminders that mankind will continue to reach for new alien worlds…and hold it in our hands.

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**Stargazer**  
By Mark Marquette  
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DNA – DO YOU KNOW YOUR ASSETS

One of the most exciting things to come along this century is the opportunity to have your DNA tested! But what can your results truly tell you? A lot as it turns out. The first question is, what do you wish to learn from taking this test? Is your main goal to learn where you came from? Are you looking for living relatives? Are you adopted and searching for birth parents? Did you know there are different types of tests that will give you different answers and better results? Sign up for this two part series to learn more about DNA testing at Bays Mountain State Park! June 26 and July 24 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Limited to 20 participants. Tickets are $6 and can be purchased at EventBrite.com. For more information please call 230-6357.

Did you know?

One of the most exciting things to come along this century is the opportunity to have your DNA tested! But what can your results truly tell you?

A lot as it turns out. The first question is, what do you wish to learn from taking this test? Is your main goal to learn where you came from? Are you looking for living relatives? Are you adopted and searching for birth parents? Did you know there are different types of tests that will give you different answers and better results?

Sign up for this two part series to learn more about DNA testing at Bays Mountain State Park! June 26 and July 24 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Limited to 20 participants. Tickets are $6 and can be purchased at EventBrite.com. For more information please call 230-6357.
Believe in Bristol
Believes in The Paramount
By Maggie Bishop, Executive Director

In 2010, Bristol, Virginia City Council designated Historic Downtown Bristol as an official Arts & Entertainment District. The purpose of this designation was to boost Bristol’s creative economy and cultural tourism, and collaborate to develop, encourage, and enhance ideas that cultivate creativity.

Without the hard work of Paramount Bristol, efforts behind the Arts & Entertainment District would have been groundless. Overall, Downtown Bristol makes significant contributions to our community’s economic health, and Paramount Bristol is a key component to that contribution and Believe in Bristol’s downtown revitalization efforts. Paramount Bristol’s programming schedule over the last three years has opened up additional opportunities to generate revenue during hours that may otherwise be unproductive economically within our downtown district. Paramount Bristol is a wonderful community partner to Believe in Bristol and the businesses downtown; their collaborative food and beverage promotions over the past year have given downtown restaurants ownership in the talent coming to The Paramount stage. We are lucky to have this gem in our Arts & Entertainment District of Downtown Bristol.
Since taking the helm as Executive Director of The Paramount Center for the Arts three years ago, I have learned three important things:

The Paramount is a living piece of Bristol history that carries the collective memories of the people who grew up here. There’s a sense of hometown pride when you see the marquee lit up at night. Not a week goes by without someone dropping in to reminisce about childhood days spent at Saturday morning cartoons and movie tickets paid for with bottle caps. We are proud to carry on that tradition while transforming the Paramount into a 21st Century showplace.

Arts and Entertainment are key to the future of downtown Bristol. Over the past three years, The Paramount has been a catalyst in the growth of the downtown cultural scene. In addition to being a source of community pride and a performance home for local arts organizations, The Paramount drives significant revenue to downtown Bristol. A vibrant downtown arts scene creates an inviting environment for tourism, retail, lodging and restaurants. Exciting possibilities are ahead as we present bigger and better shows in the coming year – which will amplify the impact we are already having on Bristol and the region.

Top artists love performing here. Big name artists have such a great time here, at the end of the night they always ask me, “When can we come back?” They talk about the caliber of our stage crew, the warmth of our audience, and the musical heritage of Bristol as reasons why they love to play The Paramount. A reputation for excellence has raised our profile as a top destination for national touring artists.

This is an exciting time to be in Bristol and it is a privilege to lead The Paramount in the latest phase of its growth. We have an amazing lineup of artists coming to The Paramount this fall, so now is a great time to get on board as a member. Your tax-deductible contribution gets you access to the best seats at the best prices – and has a positive impact on the cultural life of Bristol and the region. I encourage you to subscribe to our email newsletter at www.paramountbristol.org to stay up-to-date as we announce new shows.

Thanks for your support. We’ll See You at the Show!

Miles Marek
A NIGHT OUT in BRISTOL

Paramount ticket purchases now have another perk! Not only do you get to see a great show but you also get exclusive offers from these downtown establishments the day of the show, before or after!

The Paramount Center for the Arts has gained the support of these downtown Bristol establishments. These offers are exclusive to this partnership and you MUST present your ticket or ticket stub to receive the offer. See Paramount Theatre schedule on back page.

1. Bristol Station
   Coupon Code: BRISTATIONS5
   41 Piedmont Avenue
   276-608-1220
   HALF OFF FIRST PINT OR FLIGHT

2. Blackbird Bakery
   Coupon Code: BLACKBIRD5
   56 Piedmont Avenue
   276-645-5754
   10% OFF YOUR ORDER

3. Stateline Bar & Grille
   Coupon Code: STATELINES5
   644 State Street
   423-652-0792
   2 FOR 1 APPETIZERS

4. Munchieetti's
   Coupon Code: MACH5
   85th Street
   423-573-9955
   BUY AN APPETIZER GET SECOND ONE FOR HALF PRICE
Here’s How It Works

Bring your Paramount ticket or stub to any participating Partner and take advantage of their offer. You can use your ticket before the theatre, afterwards – or both!

Visit paramountbristol.org 24/7 for tickets, online calendar and more info.

Be sure to tell your server that you are using a Paramount Partners discount. Then simply enjoy!
We are taking our super fun NERF War parties on the road and headed to Johnson City in June! We have rented the gym at the Memorial Park Community Center from 6-8 p.m. on Friday June 29th and are setting up for 2 hours of foam blasting action! NERF Warriors will enjoy not only head-to-head battles, but also a sample of scenarios like: ZOMBIE APOCALYPSE CAPTURE THE FLAG STORMING THE BEACH and much more! NERF Warriors may bring their favorite guns, or they can use one from our 70+ NERF gun arsenal. We have an awesome mix of ELITE, MEGA and RIVAL guns to choose from. We provide ALL AMMO. The custom battlefield will be set-up using our awesome paintball field inflatables, providing plenty of cover and concealment. NERF War is open to kids ages 7 and up. Admission is only $22 + tax per child. Our past NERF Wars have all SOLD OUT, so don’t wait - get registered today! Tickets can be purchased at reddragonnerfarmy.com
Living in 2018 is exhausting, both for global and personal reasons—my father has been dealing with lung cancer for almost a year. To cope and deal with it all I spend a lot of time indulging my passions more than usual. Which is to say I’ve spent a significant amount of time scouring local thrift shops for vintage board games, and filling my eBay watchlist full of them like I’m loading hams into a cart on “Supermarket Sweep.”

In my nightly restlessness I think about board games. Specifically, I think about the jingles to the TV ads of so many games from my youth. The 1990s was truly the golden time when mass-market board games and video games existed together peacefully, with ad time devoted to both about equal. In a slightly ironic twist, last night I couldn’t sleep as the jingle stuck in my head was the one for that classic game of terrifying your father “Don’t Wake Daddy.”

“Don’t Wake Daddy” was a simple game where you had to move your pawn to a space determined by a spinner, then press the alarm clock on the giant plastic bed in the middle a certain number of times—not knowing which one could make daddy wake up. The sculpt of the plastic figure that was the game’s title character always looked terrified for some reason—God only knows what kind of nightmares this poor plastic man dreams of.

As I fell deeper and deeper down the rabbit hole of board games on eBay, I came across a particularly insane game from the early 1970s for kids called “Ice Cube.” What is the point of “Ice Cube” you ask? Simple, you make pawns out of actual ice—and the last one to melt wins. Along the way, the pawns have hot metal washers placed on them, salt, warm water, and other methods to make the characters melt.

Despite the box gladly stating “self-contained waterproof tray”—the game is super rare and goes for an insane amount of money as, according to legend, the game was so messy most parents tossed it into the trash as soon as they could. If you’re gonna make a game that isn’t even luck based, but based around the concept of...well...melting, why not take it one further? Introducing “Watch Paint Dry!” The new game from AndyCo where you and your kiddos apply a stretch of fresh paint to a card and watch it dry!

First player’s card to fully dry wins, but look out, your opponents can stop you! Look out for the dreaded “wet sponge” that can keep the paint as damp as a dewy day! I hope you won’t have to place your card into the “Paint Thinner Bath!” Oh, no! You’re almost done with the game but now it’s time to beat the devil out of the brush! The more I think about this, the more I need to get this game made so I can finally retire on a private island with my board game collection.

Maybe this could be my new side gig? Maybe I’ll become one of those overnight stories that they talk to on the Today show all the time? Maybe I’ll finally become respected by my peers and no longer just thought of as “The Little Word Boy.” I gotta go talk to someone I know about this. See you next week.
"ATTENTION ALL NERDS... CALLING ALL NERDS... WE HAVE T – MINUS 3 DAYS UNTIL THE LARGEST, GREATEST, NERD-IOUS CONVENTION OF THEM ALL, KNOXVILLE’S FANBOY EXPO!"

We are two of the biggest self-proclaimed nerds you can find. We love 80’s movies and music, we read and collect comic books, we love going to theme parks to ride the newest coasters, we travel hundreds of miles to go to the next comic con, we invite friends over for show and tell of our newest POPs or superhero statues… we are proud to be NERDS! In just 3 days, one of the biggest comic cons in our area will be headed into the Knoxville Convention Center downtown for 3 days of fandom, Friday June 29th – Sunday July 1st. The Knoxville FanBoy Expo brings in some of the region’s biggest celebrity guest for fan to meet and get that super special autograph and photo. Here are a few that we are excited about:

**CASSANDRA PETERSON**
She’s goth, she has legs for days, she’s the ever so popular POP culture icon Elvira – Mistress of the Dark will be available (Saturday and Sunday Only) each day starting at noon to meet her fans. Peterson is one that you don’t want to miss. We just had the opportunity to meet her last weekend in Indianapolis and you will see us in line again in Knoxville for her!

**IAN MCDIARMID**
He wants to rule the empire/universe, foes know him as Darth Sidious, the public call him Supreme Chancellor, he’s the one we all came to love. Emperor Palpatine himself will be available each day (Saturday and Sunday Only) for autographs and photos. McDiarmid is a rare Star Wars guest to the United States and you don’t want to miss your change to meet him!

**HEINRY THOMAS**
He has a thing for flying bicycles, he has a soft spot for helping aliens “phone home”. He’s the one we all remember from the 80’s as Elliott from the Steven Spielberg classic, E.T. ! Thomas will be available all three days to meet fans and sign autographs/take photos. (along with Thomas, Dee Wallace – Elliott’s mom and Robert Macnaughton – Elliott’s big brother, will also be available to meet fans).

**RON PERLMAN**
He’s big, he’s red, he’s Hellboy! Perlman best known for his Hellboy roles will be available (Saturday and Sunday Only) to meet fans and get autographs/photos. (along with Perlman, Doug Jones – Abe Sapien and Selma Blair – Liz also from Hellboy will be available to meet fans)

**NICK CARTER, HOWIE D & AJ MCLEAN**
They have sold over 130 Million records worldwide, they are still “Larger Than Life”, they are, the Backstreet Boys! These original boy band members will be available each day to meet fans, take pics and sign autographs.

**JAMES MARSTERS**
Spike in Buffy the Vampire Slayer

**JONATHAN FRAKES**
Commander Riker in Star Trek

**RICH FLAIR**
Professional Wrestling Legend

**DAVID YOST**
Blue Power Ranger

**BILL FARMER**
voice of Goofy and Pluto

**JASON MARSDEN**
voice of Max Goof

**JOSH PETERSDORF**
voice of Roadhog in Overwatch

**STEVE WHITMIRE**
voice of Kermit

**CHARLES MARTINET**
voice of Mario

**PETER CULLEN**
He is the leader of the Autobots, has a strong sense of honor and justice, some call him “The Last Prime”, but most know him as Optimus Prime. Cullen is best known for his voice as Optimus Prime in the Transformer movies. He will be available (Saturday ONLY) for a special autograph and photo package. You must buy this in advance!

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**THE NERD’S CORNER**
By Jason & Daniel Worley
jdworley@theloaferonline.com

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They have sold over 130 Million records worldwide, they are still “Larger Than Life”, they are, the Backstreet Boys! These original boy band members will be available each day to meet fans, take pics and sign autographs.
The Breakfast Club, the region's most popular recurring live music event, returns to Capone's in Johnson City on Friday, June 29. This will be the band’s first Friday evening show in over 5 years, and the band’s annual mid-summer concert. Admission to the show is $12, and the show begins at 10:30 p.m.

For over 17 years, The Breakfast Club has entertained live music fans in the Tri-Cities region. The Breakfast Club has fans from a multitude of genres. Many local musicians routinely attend The Breakfast Club concerts in appreciation of the band's live musical execution. Several line-up changes, social changes, and changes in popular music haven’t slowed down the '80s music juggernaut. Hundreds of fans routinely flock to The Breakfast Club shows to sing and dance along to their favorite nostalgic tunes. Since their first show in the region, The Breakfast Club has become woven into the fabric of local music tradition.
If you or your band are playing in the upcoming week and would like to be in The Spotlight, call in advance to (423) 283-4324 or go online to: theloaferonline.com. Due to last minute cancellations or changes, please call the location to confirm.

**Spotlight - TUESDAY - June 26 -**
The Sword w/ The Atomic Bitchwax
Capone's

**Downtown Country**
Jiggy Ray's Pizzeria

**Railway Express**
The Shed

**Model City**
High Voltage

**Stemwinder Band**
Model City Tap House

**Spotlight - THURSDAY - June 28 -**
Mark Larkins
Rock's Wood Fired Pizza & Grill

**HB Beverly**
Model City Tap House

**Open Mic**
Bears Bar

**Spotlight - FRIDAY - June 29 -**
Eric Gress
Wild Wing Cafe

**The Edgar Loudermilk Band feat Jeff Autry**
Down Home

**Stemwinder Band**
Roan Mountain State Park

**Shooter Band**
Painter Creek Marina

**Cross Road**
Outdoorsmen Club

**James Meadows**
Sonny's Cafe

**Troy Breslow**
Our House Restaurant

**The Whiskey Sticks**
Yee Haw Brewing Company

**Thunderstruck**
Twilight Alive Concert Series

**Acoustifried**
Town of Marion

**Sulphur Springs String Dippers**
Founders After 5

**Tyrique Shahmir**
Gypsy Circus Cider Company

**Borderline**
CJ's Sports Bar

**The Breakfast Club**
Capone’s

**Open Mic**
Station on 19E

**Aaron Walker**
Woodstone Deli

**Asylum Suite**

**Spotlight - SATURDAY - June 30 -**

**Acoustifried**
Wild Wing Cafe

**The Kindest People w/ Harp and Coat Hanger**
Capone’s

**Cash Revisited**
Holston River Brewing Company

**Rusty Steel & Quarterbounce**
Rush Street

**Acoustifried**
Wild Wing Cafe

**The Judy Chops**
Down Home

**Paul Lee Kupfer**
The Willow Tree Coffeehouse & Music Room

**Stone Creek 4**
Silver Spur

**Broke-N-Busted**
Kingsport Eagles

**Ali Randolph & The Outta Luck Band**
Sonny's Cafe

**Downtown Country**
Covered Bridge

**Jalopy Junctions**
Gypsy Circus Cider Company

**New Ballards Branch Bogtrotters**
Carter Family Fold

**Spotlight - SUNDAY July 1 -**

**Ivy Road**
Lakeview Marina Marker II

**Spotlight - MONDAY July 2 -**

**Singer & Songwriter Nite**
Bears Bar
Karaoke

TUESDAY
Karaoke w/ Crossroads & Josh Blevins at Dawg House Tavern
Karaoke at Zachary’s Steakhouse
Family Night Karaoke at C.J’s Sports Bar
Karaoke at Numan’s - Johnson City TN

WEDNESDAY
Karaoke w/ Southern Sounds Karaoke at American Legion 8pm
Michael’s Krazy Karaoke at Marx the Spot
Karaoke at C.J’s Sports Bar
Karaoke w/ Absolute Entertainment at The Cave
Turn the Page Karaoke at VFW Post 2108 - Johnson City TN

THURSDAY
Karaoke w/ Absolute Entertainment at Macado’s - Kingsport
Get Wylde Entertainment Karaoke at Painter Creek
Karaoke at Zachary’s Steakhouse
Michael’s Krazy Karaoke at Stateline Bar & Grill
Karaoke at C.J’s Sports Bar
Karaoke w/ DJ Marquez Top Shelf Entertainment at Wild Wing Cafe JC
Karaoke at Numan’s - Johnson City TN
Karaoke w/ Absolute Entertainment at New Beginning’s
Karaoke at Jiggy Rays Pizzaria

FRIDAY
Karaoke w/ Southern Sounds Karaoke at Sportsman’s Bar & Grill 9pm
Karaoke w/ Shane Rouse at Bear’s Bar
Karaoke at Kingsport Moose Lodge
Karaoke w/ Reverb Karaoke at The Cottage 8:30 pm
Turn the Page Karaoke at VFW Post 2108 - Johnson City TN
Karaoke w/ Absolute Entertainment at Moe’s Original BBQ
Karaoke w/ Toddzilla at Sportsmans Pub
Karaoke at Elizabethton VFW
Karaoke w/ DJ Marquez & Top Shelf Entertainment at Holiday Inn (Exit 7) - Bristol VA
Karaoke at Numan’s - Johnson City TN

SATURDAY
Karaoke at The Horseshoe Lounge
Karaoke w/ Toddzilla at Sportsmans Pub
Karaoke at Kingsport Moose Lodge
Turn the Page Karaoke at VFW Post 2108 - Johnson City TN
Karaoke w/ Absolute Entertainment at Macado’s - Kingsport
Karaoke at Numan’s - Johnson City TN
JONESBOROUGH DAYS
June 29 - July 1

Tennessee’s Oldest Town will celebrate the 48th Annual Jonesborough Days Festival on June 29 through July 1 with family activities, an exciting music line-up, handmade arts and crafts, patriotic parade, fireworks, storytelling and much more! The 2018 Jonesborough Days Festival will begin Friday, June 29 at 10 a.m. and host the Annual Kick Off Dinner starting at 5:30 p.m. with music and more until 10 p.m. The festival will continue on Saturday, June 30 at 10 a.m. with the parade marching through downtown and festivities continuing until 10 p.m. On Sunday, July 1 activities start at noon and the event wraps up with the annual fireworks display at 10 p.m. Admission to the festival is free and open to the public. The festival has been voted as one of the top events in the southeast and is known for its community patriotism and nostalgic atmosphere. Various entertainment and activities will take place throughout the historic district on all three days. Get your tickets now for the popular Kick Off Dinner on Friday evening at the International Storytelling Center.

A low country shrimp boil is on the menu with entertainment by the Jonesborough Novelty Band and lots of family fun all for $15/person. Doc’s Front Porch will feature a variety of storytellers and musicians on the plaza at the International Storytelling Center during the day. The Main Stage will also feature entertainment each evening including headliners The Beach Nite Band, Johnny Cash NOW and the Music City Stones. Shop over 70 vendors, showcasing local handmade crafters with a variety of wares. And of course, there will be a variety of great festival foods with everything from BBQ and tacos and of course funnel cakes being offered.

Discovery Park, located behind the Storytelling Center, will offer even more activities for children and their families this year. There you will find lots of hands-on ways to experience activities only found in Jonesborough including a taste of what they offer at the McKinney Center for the Arts classes, Oak Hill School sessions complete with a schoolmarm, heritage games and an archaeological dig provided by the Heritage Alliance and more. Visit Discovery Park each day and see what all Jonesborough has to discover!

The Jonesborough Repertory Theatre will also present 1776 the Musical with performances scheduled all weekend long. Visit their website, jonesboroughtheatre.com for show times and tickets. Parking will be available at the Jonesborough Middle School for $5/car and a free shuttle will be running all weekend long. For a complete event schedule, tickets or for more information on the 48th Annual Jonesborough Days Festival, call 423.753.1010 or visit our website at jonesboroughdays.com

DID YOU KNOW:
APPROXIMATELY
40,000 AMERICANS ARE INJURED BY TOILETS EACH YEAR?

We’re celebrating sharing 1 year of yoga with our hometown community!
We are grateful for all of the community support over the past year. To show our appreciation, we are offering 30 days of unlimited yoga for $30 to all NEW yoga students AND for our current students, our MONTHLY UNLIMITED YOGA RATE is $78 in honor of our first day of business, July 8, 2017!

www.breathebristol.com

Your Om-Grown Studio!
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Bristol, VA 24201
(423) 254 - 0323
call us today!
**MINOTAUR**

**ACOUSTIC SYNDICATE**

Deep within the labyrinth
The devourer of souls
Unphased by Medusa’s glare
Lies in wait
Untold treasures procured, protected
Courageous stoicism uncannily unaffected
Challenge hell-spawns to no avail
Hades keeping Cerberus tightly leashed
As a final defense fewer still see the dogs of war
As they are unworthy unable to pass the first test

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The Casual Word
By Langley Shazor
Follow Langley at TheCasualWord thecasualword@gmail.com

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Acoustic Syndicate is a musical institution. Since 1994, their unique blend of bluegrass instruments, rock sensibilities, and conscious songwriting has inspired a generation of musicians. Through 7 albums, thousands of performances, and tens-of-thousands of miles, Acoustic Syndicate has long been heralded as one of the important influences on the modern roots-music revival.

Always a family affair, the band is fronted by Steve McMurry on guitar and vocals, and his cousin Bryon McMurry on banjo, guitar, and vocals. Their signature three-part harmony is rounded out by Bryon’s brother Fitz on drums and vocals. Jay Sanders holds down the bass with style, while dobro maestro Billy Cardine completes the quintet with his world-renowned tone and precision.

“Their modern take on traditional bluegrass and rock values culminates in a glimmering, driving sound rich with acoustic textures and glowing vocals,” said Paul Kerr, of JamBase.

If there was ever a band that could capture the universal truths of life from the roots up, it’s Acoustic Syndicate.
We all know St Jude’s is a great cause. Well, here’s an opportunity to have some fun while supporting the kids at the hospital. This Thursday is the Annual Bristol Putt Putt Tournament. It is being held at the Bristol Putt Putt location, 319 Bluff City Hwy, and there is something for everyone. It is only $25 to participate, or $100 for a four-person team. They have pro, church and regular supporters divisions, so you can get in the level of play you prefer. Food trucks will be there at 5:00 when registration begins. Play begins at 6:30. It is a lot of fun and for a good cause as well. Stop by and say hello and hit one of those little yellow balls around.

**KINGSPORT THEATRE GUILD**

**TEEN CAMP**

Our Teen Theatre Camp is fast approaching. This camp is designed for middle- and high-school students (7th-12th grade) and offers a unique experience, during which they will learn all of the crucial skills required to produce their own visual works of art. Students will receive instruction in classes such as: Auditions/Monologues, Lighting, Stage Combat, Improv, Makeup, Sound, Stage Management, Directing, Costume, Scene Work, Set Design and will end the week with a presentation by the campers on Friday, June 29, at the Renaissance Arts Center & Theatre, beginning at 6 p.m. Admission is by donation. Camp mentors and workshop presenters will be members of the Kingsport Theatre Guild, as well as theatre professionals from the Tri-Cities area.

Camp will start Monday, June 25, 2018 and run through Friday, June 29, 2018. with an early drop off of 7:30 and a late pickup of 5:30. Campers will attend Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. and need to pack a bagged lunch each day.

Cost for the camp is $100 and registration is limited to 45 total students. The first siblings will receive a discounted rate of $75 for the week, second and subsequent siblings will receive a rate of $50 for the week.

Campers can register in person at KTG’s office (Renaissance Center, 1200 East Center Street, Suite 211, Kingsport) or via email at KingsportTheatreGuild@gmail.com.

**Thursday, June 28 at Shakti in the Mountains, Johnson City**

Gather with other joyful souls under a full moon and celebrate your existence. Tune into your natural rhythms and listen to your inner wise voice. Each month’s celebration includes a wisdom practice as well as an outdoor bonfire (weather permitting). No prior experience necessary. You only need to bring an open heart. PLEASE NOTE: In order to maintain a sacred space, we ask that you arrive no later than 10 minutes past the start time. Thank you for respecting our circle. COST: Free Community Event. A $10 love donation is encouraged. For more information or to reserve your spot contact Shakti in the Mountains (423) 202-4472
Her whole life has trained her to be a conduit and she’s learned the implications of the straw. In 2007 a family friend had a dream and said, “God wants you to build a website called 2dollar4change. Cindi Shelton told God if He’d tell her what the money was for she’d build the website. Thirteen years later she is launched the website. S.T.R.A.W.S. Point of Contact and Thriftique is now a reality. Twenty one years of faith, work and divine intervention have gone in to the creation of STRAWS. Along with the vision and message, God has seen fit to provide Cindi with the volunteers and donations needed for the branches to reach out with her unique tree of giving.

STRAW s, short for Seeking Truth, Righteousness and Wisdom, Spirituality is a Christ based organization on a mission to be a vessel of His love by assisting families in need, regardless of their circumstances. STRAWS gives struggling individuals and families a HAND UP, NOT HAND OUT by helping them become independent from government assistance. The “Planting Families” project assists with education, job placement, shelter and stabilization in all forms. Participants are required to remain drug free and pledge to give back to the community by volunteering and helping others.

The newly opened S.T.R.A.W.S thrift store at 5621 Fort Henry Drive in Kingsport is filled with donated items for those in need of clothing, housewares, toys, etc. The prices are all the same.” Whatever you see fit to give.” “Whatever you can give.” Other branches include a “Big like Dwight” mentoring program, Rolling trade school, essential oil classes and bible studies/ministry. An overwhelming number of people in our region struggle to make it day to day, week to week, so the branches need to reach far and wide. We hear it “takes a village” and knowing this herself, Cindi has reached out to other non-profits such as The United Way, Shades of Grace and Engage Tri-Cities. She’s been invited to speak and share her mission with some local congregations and hopes to add to her network and strength by inspiring others with her vision. STRAWS is actively accepting donations of merchandise for the thrift store and in need of volunteers of all types. Tradesmen, mechanics and contractors are high on the wish list, as well as mentors and retail shop help. Her 2dollars4change initiative enables citizens of all incomes to contribute to the mission because a village includes all of us. Donate $2, $20 or $200 at 2dollars4change.org and share the word. That’s what it’s all about, anyway. Sharing and The Word.
THINGS TO DO

The Handmaid’s Tale
by Margaret Atwood will be discussed at the June meeting of the adult book group at Gray Library. The group meets at 2 p.m., June 28, at the library. This is a dystopian novel by Canadian author Margaret Atwood, originally published in 1985. It is set in a near-future New England, in a totalitarian religious state, that has overthrown the United States government. The novel focuses on the journey of the handmaid Offred. Everyone is welcome to attend. Call the library at (423) 477-1550 for more information.

The Johnson City Public Library Board of Directors invites the community to meet final candidates for its library director position at a special public event on Thursday, June 28. The event starts at 6:30 p.m. in the Jones Meeting Center on the first floor of the library. This special event is an opportunity for the public to meet each candidate and to learn more about their qualifications and their vision for the Johnson City Public Library. Immediately after the presentations, the public is invited to participate in a question and answer session with the candidates and to provide feedback to the Library Board of Directors. A reception with light refreshments will follow.

The three finalists for the Library Director position are:
• Melanie Morgan • Julia Turpin • Joseph Zappacosta

AFRO-CARIBBEAN DRUMMING PERFORMANCE AT THE JOHNSON CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

A public performance by participants of the Artful Aging Afro-Caribbean Drumming and Creative Movement workshop will be held at the Johnson City Public Library on Saturday, June 30, 2018. The performance will start at 2:00 p.m. Students of Dr. Arnold Nyarambi will share the skills they have learned in eight weeks of workshop training, with an emphasis on the joy of movement and self-expression through music. The performance is free of charge, and the public is encouraged to attend. A reception will follow, and audience members will have a chance to talk with the performers to learn about their experiences. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information about Seeding Artful Aging, please visit arohaartfulaging.org. For more information about the Artful Aging workshops at the library, please contact Lisa Williams at 423-434-4356 or lwilliams@jpcl.net

Jonesborough to Welcome Storytellers

The 2018 season of the Storytelling Live!, the International Storytelling Center’s popular performance series, is underway. All ticketholders can present their ticket stubs for a 10 percent discount on same-day dining at JJ’s Eatery and Ice Cream; Main Street Café (lunch only); Medley Vegan Vegetarian; Olde Towne Pancake House; and The Corner Cup. Boone Street Market is offering 10 percent off prepared meals and 5 percent off any other purchase. Information about all performers, as well as a detailed schedule for 2018, is available at www.storytellingcenter.net. The premier sponsor of Storytelling Live! is Ballad Health. The International Storytelling Center is open 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday. For more information about Storytelling Live! or to make a group reservation, call (800) 952-8392 ext. 222 or (423) 913-1276.

Johnson City Community Drum Circle

The Johnson City Community Drum Circle meets every Wednesday evenings through October 24, 7pm - 8:30pm, inside the Farmers’ Market Pavilion next to Founders Park. Everyone is welcome and any body can play. Come drum, hoop/holler, dance, or just relax and take in the scene, no experience or “talent” necessary. There are shared instruments and of course you can bring your own drums or percussion.

It’s all improvised, so there are no mistakes. We just smile and keep playing. Shine or rain, the pavilion has us covered. Bring your own seating!

This program is part of the “Libraries Rock!” Summer Reading Program which will continue through July 20th. Children are encouraged to register at the library or online to participate in the Summer Reading Program. Support materials for the Summer Reading Program are provided by the Tennessee State Library and Archives. For more information and to register for this free program or other Youth Services programs, please call 423-434-4458. Follow Johnson City Public Library on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram for updates on programs and services.

Marsh Regional Blood Center will conduct public blood drives at the following locations:
• Tuesday, June 26, 11:00am-5:00pm, Bell Helicopter, Piney Flats, TN
• Tuesday, June 26, 11:00am-2:30pm, Virginia Highlands Community College, Abingdon, VA
• Tuesday, June 26, 4:00pm-7:30pm, South Holston Ruritan Club, Bristol, TN
• Thursday, June 28, 12:00pm-7:30pm, Holston Valley Medical Center, Kingsport, TN
• Thursday, June 28, 1:00pm-6:00pm, Food City, Pennington Gap, VA
• Thursday, June 28, 4:30pm-8:30pm, Roan Highlands Nursing Center, Roan Mountain, TN
• Friday, June 29, 7:30am-1:30pm, Holston Valley Medical Center, Kingsport, TN
• Friday, June 29, 9:00am-11:30am, Kingston Center, Duffield, VA
• Friday, June 29, 1:00pm-4:00pm, Ridgecrest Manor, Duffield, VA
• Friday, June 29, 1:00pm-4:00pm, English Meadows, Abingdon, VA

Cryptogram: Next to knowing when to seize an opportunity, the most important thing in life is to know when to forego an advantage.

DropQuote: “Reform Jews are the children of Conservative Jews, or as they are sometimes known, Christians with curlier hair.”
Celestial events in the skies for the week of June 26 - July 2, as compiled for The Loafer by Mark D. Marquette.

Full Moon week with the orb at full phase, the Earth between the Sun and Moon. Native Americans called it the Strawberry Moon and Europeans the Rose Moon. The Summer atmosphere make the globe look yellow or golden, and we have the Honey Moon to thank for all those June brides and grooms taking a honeymoon! Download a free guide to the night sky at Skymaps.com and begin to learn the dot-to-dot patterns of constellations.

Tuesday, June 26
Four planets await you: Venus in the western twilight and early evening darkness; Jupiter high in the south at dark and visible all night; after midnight Saturn is well above the eastern horizon, followed by Mars rising around 2 am and standing high in the south before sunrise at 5 am.

Wednesday, June 27
On this 1982 date in space history, Shuttle Columbia was launched on the 4th mission, STS-4, the last two-man American flight with Ken Mattingly and Henry Hartsfield. On this 1995 date, Atlantis was launched on STS-71, the third mission to Russia’s MIR space station for an exchange of cosmonauts and astronauts.

Thursday, June 28
Full Moon tonight has Saturn below it, drawing all eyes upward this Summer night. Watch as the Moon moves to the west (left) its own diameter (1/2 degree) every hour as our natural satellite rotates around Earth every 28.5 days.

Friday, June 29
On this 1971 date in space history, three cosmonauts were asphyxiated during reentry of their Soyuz 11 spacecraft. The cosmonauts spent 28 days on the world’s first space station, Salyut 1, and the tragedy rocked the Soviet public who watched almost daily televised reports from the spacemen. This was the second and last Russian space tragedy, the first being Soyuz 1 killing cosmonaut Vladimir Komarov in 1967 when the reentry parachutes failed.

Saturday, June 30
On this 1908 date in astronomy history, a comet or meteor exploded over Siberia, leveling hundreds of acres of forest in the area called Tunguska. Shockwaves were felt around the world, and dust thrown up created red sunset for months. So remote is the area, it took 20 years for the first successful expedition to bring back photos of the devastation.

Sunday, July 1
On this 1917 date in astronomy history, the 100-inch mirror for the Hooker Telescope on Mt. Wilson, California was delivered. For three decades it was the most important optical instrument pointed to the stars. On this 1997 date in space history, Columbia was launched on the STS-94 mission on a 15-day Microgravity Science Lab but was cut short to three days when a power-making fuel cell failed.

Monday, July 2
Look south at 11 pm and see left to right, red Antares in Scorpius the Scorpion, golden Jupiter in Libra the Scales, and white Spica in Virgo the Virgin. Revisit this are on a moonless night and enjoy the Milky Way!
I am a sucker for those glossy Time-Life magazines that tempt me at the supermarket check-out line. Last week I added one more of these to my collection: “Music of 1968: Rock and Roll’s Greatest Year.” I already have the Time-Life overview of 1968 (“The Year That Changed A Generation,” or something like that), and because this is the year we are commemorating the 50th anniversary of that tumultuous year, I felt the need to offer some of my reflections on the music of 1968. So, here goes.

The Time-Life music issue is exactly what you should expect, right down to the Beatles on the front cover and Janis Joplin, Johnny Cash, and Jimi Hendrix on the back cover. The book’s chapters cover familiar ground—in addition to those artists pictured on the front and back covers, have coverage and pictures about Motown, songs, the increasing importance of women in music (i.e. Laura Nyro, Aretha Franklin, Grace Slick, Dusty Springfield, Joni Mitchell, Linda Ronstadt, Joan Baez, et. al.), the Rolling Stones, and James Brown’s legendary Boston concert that helped calm the unrest that followed in the wake of Martin Luther King’s assassination.

And the opening paragraph also sounds very familiar: “For rock ‘n’ roll lovers, 1968 hit the mother lode. Psychedelia ruled, and so did protest, Motown and Johnny Cash’s twang. The Rolling Stones blasted back onto the airwaves with ‘Beggars Banquet.’ Heavy metal was ascendant. The Beatles, in spite of personal resentments and professional differences, followed ‘Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band’ with an LP that since has been embraced as even more iconic ….” And so on. Nothing very surprising here, right down to the concluding sentence: “Rock ‘n’ roll helped change the conversation in 1968. It also changed the world.” Don’t be surprised if the same sentence appears in next year’s 50th year commemorative tribute to how 1969 changed the world.

Walsh’s motives in writing his book should be taken into account when we are inclined to indulge in nostalgic fantasies about 1968: “The story of the late-sixties counterculture in America has been told before, especially in regard to the drama unfolding in San Francisco, Chicago, and New York. But what happened in Boston has gone largely unremarked.” And so has the history of places like Johnson City, Bristol, Kingsport, and my hometown of Sparta, North Carolina. All these places were touched by the history of 1968, but in ways far different than the perspectives given in standard American history textbooks. It is time to revisit the history we thought we knew. Walsh’s book is a good place to start.

See you next week.
This cutie is Oreo he is neutered and up to date on all vaccines. He is ready for his furrever home!

We have a lot of kittens that need homes! They are all spayed or neutered and up to date on all vaccines.

The Bridge Home No Kill Animal Rescue has started a pet food pantry for people that have had financial hardships because of job loss or medical problems and are struggling to feed their pet. They can come by the shelter and get cat or dog food to get through the tough time.

Donations can be sent to The Bridge Home Shelter PO Box 654 Blountville, TN 37617. Every animal in their care is spayed or neutered and fully vaccinated before being adopted. Being a non-profit the shelter is funded entirely by membership dues and private donations. They always need volunteers or monetary donations. Other always needed items: pet food, cat litter & cat toys dog treats & dog toys, paper towels, cleaners, office supplies, Purina weight circles. Phone: 423-239-5237 Hours are Mon-Fri 12pm-6pm Sat 12pm-3pm and Sun 2pm-4pm. Website is www.bridgehomerescue@gmail.com or like them on Facebook: www.Facebook.com/bridgehome
RUNS, CAR SHOWS AND BIKE NIGHTS

Send your event to: info@theloaferonline.com

BIKE NIGHTS
- Wednesdays: Bear’s Bar
- Wednesdays: Holston River Brewing Co.
- Thursdays: Quaker Steak & Lube
- Fridays: Tulips American Grub and Pub

RUNS & RIDES
- June 30: Charity Ride for Kari’s Heart Foundation. Registration at 9am. Stands up at 10am. $15. Smith Brothers Harley Davidson, Johnson City.
- July 7: Kids 4 Kingston. Quaker Steak & Lube, Bristol. Noon - 5pm

CAR SHOWS
- Tuesdays: Holston River Brewing Company - Bristol, TN
- Fridays: Krystal’s Johnson City
- Saturdays: Carter County Car Club Downtown Elizabethton
- June 30: Cruise In and Car Show. 10am at Freddy’s Frozen Custard & Steakburgers Johnson City, TN. $15 entry fee. Awards at 2pm.
- July 7: Kids 4 Kingston Car Show. Entry Fee $10.00 Donation. A portion of proceeds benefit Kingston Baker. Observation Knob Park 10am - 3pm. Shane, 423-742-0167
- July 28: 6th Annual Open Car Show by American Patriots Pastime; Anything with Wheels; Tri Cities Cinemas at exit 66 off I-81; 423-323-3981

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& SUZY BOGGUSS

ATTRACTIONS

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