

On the Record



The following items are derived directly from official Savannah Police Department reports and spokesmen.

Nov. 30
 Josh A. Steakley, 29, 555 Oak St., was arrested on Oak Street at 3:30 p.m. on charges of domestic assault involving his fiancée Joanna Holt, and resisting arrest. According to the report, Steakley said he was "not going to jail," started to jerk away from the officer and was shot with a taser.

Dec. 1
 Melissa G. Beckham, 36, 950 Heartland Lane, was arrested on Florence Road at 3:15 p.m. and charged with driving on a suspended license. The arresting officer said he stopped Beckham because he knew her license was invalid.

Dale R. Bearden, 44, Adamsville, was driving east on Wayne Road and was entering the turn lane to turn into Hardin Medical Center. Lawrence D. Elston, 47, 2305 Tenn. 57, was driving west on Wayne and said he entered the turn lane and traveled in the turn lane because of a vehicle in the westbound lane. Elston struck

Bearden head-on at 5:04 p.m. **Dec. 2**

An arrest was made for public intoxication.

Riley J. McClain, 49, and Tina M. McClain, 48, both of 69 Macon St., were arrested on charges of domestic violence involving each other.

Dec. 4
 Tim A. White, 41, 280 Gears Lane, was arrested on Pickwick Road at 7:32 p.m. and charged with a seventh offense of driving on a revoked license. The arresting officer said he stopped White for a nonfunctioning headlight.

Murry's Liquor reported a black female shoplifted two bottles of liquor.

Dec. 5
 An arrest was made for public intoxication.

Daniel M. Larson, 22, 675 Jones Road, was arrested on a DUI charge on Jefferson Street at 10:36 p.m. The arresting officer said he stopped Larson after observing his vehicle driving recklessly on Pinhook Road.

Dec. 6
 Evelyn S. Blalock, 25, 87

Garey Loop, was arrested on a charge of domestic violence after reportedly admitting to police she punched her husband Nathan Blalock in the back of the head.

Andrew Black Collins Durham, 19, 135 Marigold Lane, was arrested on Wayne Road at 1:30 p.m. and charged with DUI and possession of Schedule IV narcotics (11 blue tablets believed to be Xanax). The arresting officer said he stopped Durham following a complaint about a reckless driver.

Colton B. Hudson, 19, 2365 Pinhook Road, was driving and hit a culvert on the north side of Higgins Lane and then crossed Higgins. The front of the vehicle came to rest in a ditch on the south side of Higgins. Hudson said he was searching for a CD and lost control of his vehicle.

Correction

A story last week about a motor vehicle crash and the arrest of Jimmy Milstead, 38, on a theft charge, stated Milstead's mother lives at 145 Bain Road.

Tonya Franklin is the actual resident at that address.

Community news

Morris Chapel

Sue Ritter ■ 687-3726

Well, as I said, I found my pocket calendar and it was where I put it. Birthdays on Dec. 4, Harold Martin and Roberta Fielder. We wish each many more happy birthdays. Pray you are doing well "Best".

Community news writers were honored with a buffet meal at Sweetpeas on Dec. 3. We had Joe Hurd and wife present and we had a very nice meal and received very nice gifts from the Courier. Thanks also to Jim and Beth

Thompson for your input to all this. All writers were present but one who was sick and we pray she will be feeling better soon.

Heard from Ora Young. A lady from her church in Savannah called her. She is sounding good and trying to adjust. Remember her address is Ora Young, 2020 Royal Antilles Ct., North Las Vegas, Nevada, 89031. Her phone number is 702-473-9410. We all love this special lady and wish her the best.

Sue Wade has gotten worse. Deb has her at her house in

Jackson. She sits in a wheelchair and looks out the window but does not see or know much. Let's all be in prayer for Sue and Deb. A card can be sent to Sue Wade & Debbie at 35 Maywood Drive, Jackson, TN 38305. Please remember these ladies.

Do remember all our sick. Be in prayer for each other for I am sure there are those who need prayer not on our list. Just pray for everyone you know because there are needs for everything.

Stay safe, well and happy this week. This Wednesday, Dec. 9, I go for another treatment. Do keep Jim and me on your prayer list. May the Lord bless each of you greatly.

AccessTN expands eligibility to include children

The AccessTN board of directors has approved a new policy to allow uninsurable children with chronic and acute medical conditions to enroll in the state-administered health insurance plan. The change takes effect immediately.

As Tennessee's high risk health insurance plan, AccessTN has provided comprehensive coverage since 2007 for adults who have been denied insurance coverage due to pre-existing health conditions. Until recently, CoverKids had provided coverage to children in similar situations, but suspended new enrollment in November 2009 due to budget limitations.

With a current enrollment of more than 3,800 members,

each of whom pays a monthly premium for coverage, AccessTN provides comprehensive health insurance to individuals younger than 19, while still managing within its set budget.

Premiums for children will be based on the lowest premium level charged to AccessTN enrollees and will range from \$284 to \$410 per month. Premium assistance is an option for some families earning less than \$75,000. This aid can cover up to 60 percent of the monthly premium, depending on family income, and is subject to available funding.

"Prior to the CoverKids enrollment suspension, families with uninsurable children could buy into that program

by paying monthly premiums because they exceeded the income limits to qualify for free coverage," said David Hilley, director of AccessTN. "Now that enrollment for CoverKids has closed, this keeps a buy-in option open for those families who still need coverage for their children."

To qualify for AccessTN, an individual must be a Tennessee resident, U.S. citizen or qualified legal alien and be considered uninsurable due to pre-existing health conditions. In addition, applicants must be uninsured for at least three months, though special exclusions apply for those finishing COBRA or TennCare policies, or for those whose employer has canceled group coverage. For more information about AccessTN eligibility, or to apply, visit www.CoverTN.gov or call 1-866-CoverTN.

Community news

Walker Graham

Mary Rose ■ 926-2502

Patricia Shelby sends happy birthday wishes to Thomas Gean and Dylan McClain on Dec. 16, Pamela Rose White and Dorothy Williams on Dec. 19, and Anna Hardin on Dec. 20. Patricia also sends happy

anniversary wishes to J.P. and Sandy Gillis on Dec. 7, Guy and Dorothy Williams on Dec. 17, Joe and Dawn Wilkes on Dec. 19, and David and Reba Sawner on Dec. 20.

James Cherry Porter is still in Vanderbilt Hospital at this time. Hope he gets better soon.

My brother Charles visited one day last week with me and ate dinner.

Happy belated birthday to Roberta Fielder. She celebrated last week, and is doing very well since her surgery.

Karaoke held for youth

The youth can participate in holiday karaoke on Sunday, Dec. 20, at 5 p.m., at the Church of the Redeemed, located across from Hardin County Bank, Adamsville.

7 DAY
Weather Forecast
www.courieranywhere.com

Couple Celebrates 50th Wedding Anniversary

After returning from a trip to the mountains, Larry and Joyce Pierce continued the celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary on Saturday, October 17, 2009, at 5 p.m. with a reception at the Double Springs Baptist Church fellowship hall. The couple was married September 19, 1959. Hosted by their children, Chris (Brandy) and Keith (Lisa), family and friends enjoyed an evening of reminiscing, fun, and laughter.

*Happy Anniversary
 Larry & Joyce!*



You might say I've had an interesting day. You might say that it had its fair share of "coincidences," if you want to call them that.

The first person (we'll call her Pam) who came by my office wasn't supposed to be here this morning. You wouldn't have known at first, but Pam was hurting. Pam caught me on one of the very few days when I listened like I should.

Pam lost her husband a few months ago. I sat with her and listened as she talked about how so many of her friends had done so well checking up her during the time of her husband's illness, but I also listened as she talked about friends who had dropped the ball when it came to checking up on her now.

The second person (we'll call him Jim) who came by my office wasn't supposed to be there that morning either. Jim is a young guy, only 20 something years old, but he's already been in jail. He comes to see me from time to time, to pray, to visit, to check in, to talk about life.

Today was a bad day for Jim. He looked different, walked different, talked different. He was down. His eyes were bloodshot and I'm pretty sure he was high. He stumbled into my office today to get out of his house because he was afraid the police were after him. He'd just received news that his mom was in the hospital in Huntsville, AL with congestive heart failure, and when Jim's brother told him that their mom was "as good as dead," Jim snapped. He beat the daylight out of his brother, who luckily escaped to his car and before leaving town yelled that he was "calling the cops."

Jim was hurting. He kept repeating, "You just don't say that about your mom."

I was expecting the third guy (we'll call him Dwight) who came by my office today. Dwight comes into my office and immediately begins telling me about a very close friend who had hurt him deeply. What had started off as an innocent joke here and there became a habit of jokes at Dwight's expense. The jokes got too personal, and had really begun to sting. Things had gotten so bad that these two guys hadn't spoken to each other in a week. And so here sits Dwight in my office, not knowing if things between them would ever be the same.

About fifteen minutes into our conversation, my cell phone rang. It was a close friend of mine, but one that I hadn't taken the time to speak to in months. Another small reminder of the terrible friend that I am sometimes (ok, most times).

The last guy (in keeping with "The Office" theme, we'll call him Michael) I talked to Thursday night left me a voicemail in tears. When I called him back a few minutes later I discovered that he'd had a rough day, too. Michael had had enough. He was tired of being the punch line to every joke. And when Michael spoke up, his friend told him he was being ridiculous and that they would never hang out together again.

Meanwhile here sits a halfway finished article on my computer about friendship almost ready to send.

I was asked to write an article on how a real friend is one who is patient, but to be quite honest, before today I wasn't quite sure how patience really played into friendship. What's patience got to do with my friends?

I think it all comes back to the fact that sometimes your friends will have their moments of un-friendly moments.

Pam felt that her friends had dropped the ball.

Jim didn't feel that his brother was acting like a brother should.

Dwight and Michael's friends took the jokes too far.

And I still haven't called my friend back.

Yes, your friends will be un-friendly at times.

So will you.

And yes, you'll have a friend that will hurt you, that will betray you, that will say stuff behind your back, that will do something idiotic, or that will ruin his or her reputation.

So did Jesus.

But here's what I heard over and over again today: we've got to be patient and forgiving when it comes to our friends.

We've got to remember that we all do boneheaded stuff from time to time, and a little patience and a little forgiveness with a boneheaded friend goes a long way.

I'll leave you with Ephesians 4:32

"Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."



Philip Jenkins

Savannah Church of Christ

invites you to meet with us.

We are located at 1175 Pickwick St. across from Hardin County High School P.O. Box 1118, Savannah, Tennessee 38372

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 6:00 P.M. Evening Service • Wednesday Bible Classes 7:00 P.M.

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