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2026 HOSTESS PRINCESS

APRIL
18-26, 2026



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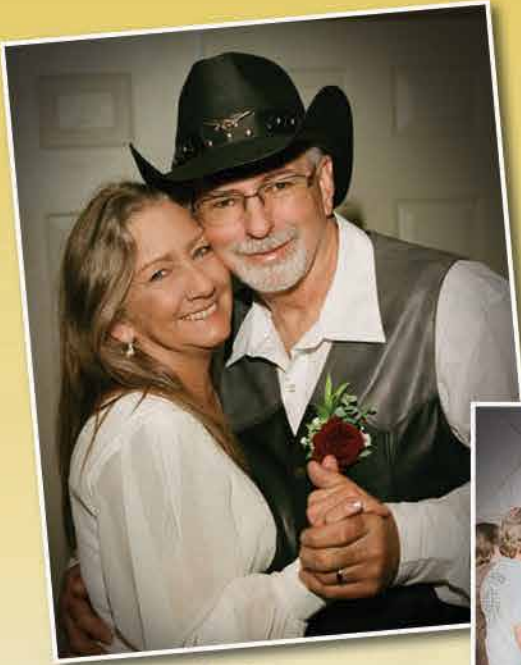
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The Paris-Henry County Jaycees are proud to dedicate
the 2026 World's Biggest Fish Fry Souvenir Book

in memory of

Wyatt Owens



The World's Biggest Fish Fry's souvenir book dedication is very important to the Paris Henry County Jaycees. We love honoring the people that have supported the Jaycees, our community, and especially the World's Biggest Fish Fry! This year's dedication is to someone who has served in the Paris Henry County Jaycees as a member for countless years and is a past president. While in the Jaycees, he was presented the U.S. Jaycee Ambassadorship Award, the highest award that can be awarded a local club member. This man has also served as a past Treasurer and General Manager of the World's Biggest Fish Fry! This year's dedication is to someone who literally helped build and shape this community we all love. He was proud of his family, his work, and of his service to Paris and Henry County. Our book dedication this year goes to Wyatt Owens.

Wyatt was born into his profession and was a builder at heart. He started working with his father, Bobby Joe Owens, in the family's construction company early in life. His mother was Doris Owens, sister, Lynn Douglass, brothers David (Jeanna) Owens and Dan (Tammy) Owens that are still here in Paris. Wyatt married his high school sweetheart, Cindy Lewis Owens in 1976. Their children, Jill (Mike) Snow and Brent (Laura) Owens, also still live here in Paris. He grew up in the family business and took great pride in passing the trade to his son, Brent. "Wyatt Owens Construction's" work included the design and construction of homes, commercial buildings and subdivisions, most significant being Emerald Lake.

Wyatt's family was his pride and joy. He and Cindy were married for almost 50 years. Their love was undeniable to anyone who knew them and to anyone that saw them dance together. This love is reflected in his children and grandchildren. Wyatt was known for never missing a game or recital. He was a dedicated Tennessee Titans fan, enjoyed crappie fishing, golf, and trips he and Cindy took with friends.

We lost Wyatt last December. His dedication to family, community, and service will continue for generations through his family and friends, whom he inspired. Thank you Wyatt for your inspiration through love of family, work and service to our community.



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**Paris-Henry County Jaycees
Welcomes You to the 73rd Annual**

World's Biggest Fish Fry

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That faith in God gives meaning and purpose to human life; That the brotherhood of man transcends the sovereignty of nations; That economic justice can best be won by free men through free enterprise; That government should be of laws rather than of men; That earth's greatest treasure lies in human personality; And that service to humanity is the best work of life.



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Dear Friends and Neighbors,

On behalf of our entire community, we are thrilled to welcome you to the 73rd Annual World's Biggest Fish Fry!

This special week is more than just a celebration — it's a tradition that brings us together in appreciation, unity, and good old-fashioned fun. Each year, we gather not only to enjoy great food, but to strengthen the bonds that make our town such a wonderful place to call home.

From the excitement of the carnival and the famous Fish Tent to the sights and sounds of the Grand Parade, there is something for everyone to enjoy. We look forward to cheering at the Bulls and Barrels Rodeo, feeling the thrill of the Demolition Derby, and watching young anglers take part in the Junior Fishing Rodeo. Every event throughout the week is a reminder of the joy that comes from celebrating together.

Most of all, this week is about community — neighbors reconnecting, families making memories, and visitors becoming friends. Whether you've attended for years or this is your first time joining us, we are grateful you're here.

So come hungry, come ready for fun, and come prepared to make lasting memories. We're proud to share this tradition with you and can't wait to celebrate together.

Welcome, and enjoy the festivities!

Warmest regards,

Chris Martin

73rd Annual World's Biggest Fish Fry/General Manager



2508 East Wood Street • Paris, Tennessee 38242 • 731-642-3431 • pariscoc@paristnchamber.com



It is our pleasure to welcome you to the 73rd Annual World's Biggest Fish Fry! On behalf of the Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce, I am beyond proud to welcome you as guests in our amazing community.

Whether you are a first time guest or a 73rd patron, we hope you enjoy each experience to the fullest, making lasting memories for many years to come. Carnival rides, bull rides, catfish races, and of course the Grand Parade... you are sure to find something to keep you coming back! Your presence here is greatly appreciated and we thank you for supporting our festivities.

While you're here, we hope that you dive deep into what makes our community so special. Our many catfish statues around town, our Eiffel Tower replica, our incredibly unique shopping in and around Historic Downtown Paris, and of course the beautiful waters of Kentucky Lake. Experience the warmth of hometown spirit!

Our Chamber of Commerce, of over 400 dedicated members, reflects the diversity and vitality of our community. We invite you to learn more about what makes our hometown special and the wonderful businesses and services that call it their home.

Here in Paris & Henry County, we take great pride in the World's Biggest Fish Fry, setting the season right! We trust your time spent here will be full of great moments that turn in to cherished memories.

Thank you again for your attendance and your support... we look forward to welcoming you back.

Happy Hushpuppies!

Caleb M Grissom

Director

Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MAYOR
RANDY GEIGER

County of Henry

P. O. Box 7

PARIS, TENNESSEE 38242

PHONE: (731) 642-5212

FAX: (731) 642-6531

EMAIL: [RGEIGER@HENRYCOUNTYTN.ORG](mailto:rgeiger@henrycountyttn.org)

Welcome to the "73rd World's Biggest Fish Fry" during the week of April 18 through April 25, 2026.

Thank you for joining us for this celebratory annual event. Whether you are a first-time visitor to our community or returning to join in the festivities, I hope you will take advantage of all the available activities, including the opportunity to share a southern fried catfish meal with friends and family as well as enjoy a great parade. As County Mayor and on behalf of the citizens of Henry County, we are honored to have each of you as our guest and are confident you will make some great memories as you participate in the entertainment and fellowship.

I want to send a sincere thanks to the Jaycee's, City of Paris Public Works, First Responders, and all the other volunteers for their efforts to make the 73rd annual Fish Fry happen.

Again, thank you for attending the World's Biggest Fish Fry. Always feel free to call on the citizens of our community if we can assist you in any way. We invite you to return to Paris and Henry County to visit at every opportunity.

Sincerely,

Randy Geiger
Henry County Mayor



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Kathy Ray, Mayor
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Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 73rd Annual World's Biggest Fish Fry! Paris, Tennessee is the greatest place in the world to be during the last full week in April.

The joy and passion of the Paris and Henry County community in welcoming visitors, friends, families, and dignitaries is a gracious endeavor. The splendid hospitality of our community surely pays off with all the smiles on the faces of children and adults enjoying activities such as the Grand Parade, Small Fry Parade, Carnival, Rodeo, Street Dance, Arts & Crafts, Catfish Races, and eating the best tasting catfish in the world!

Paris and Henry County is thankful for the beautiful lake area. The Lodge at Paris Landing State Park is one of the most beautiful in the State of Tennessee. The lake provides many enjoyable recreational activities and some of the biggest fishing tournaments in the nation. In addition, the downtown area in the City of Paris is a beautiful and historic setting for sightseeing and shopping. Take a stroll through the downtown alleys filled with murals about the history of our community known as Back Alley Paris. Be sure to take the time to take a photo at our Eiffel Tower which is in Eiffel Tower Park on Volunteer Drive.

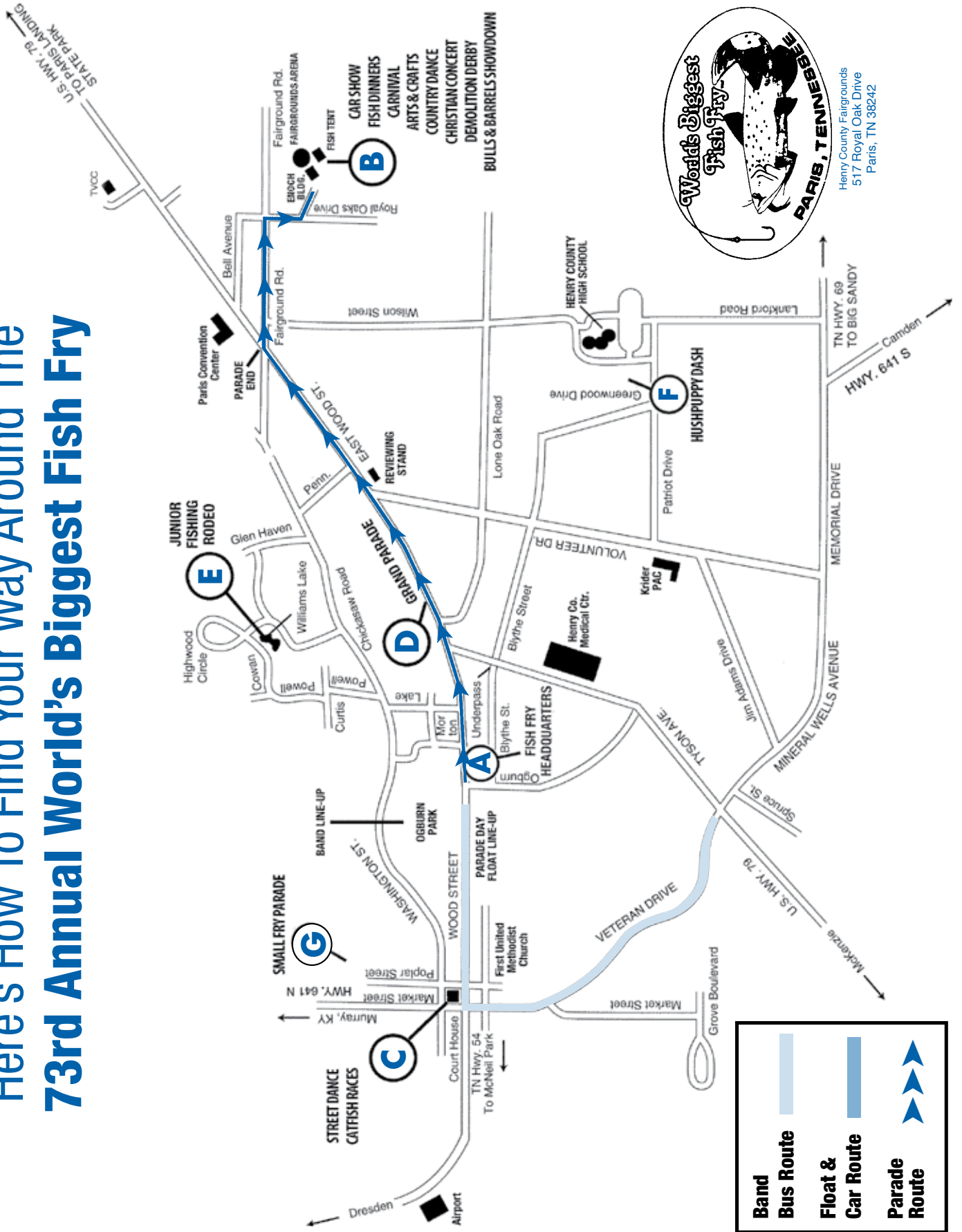
Thank you to the Paris-Henry County Jaycees, Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce, City and County Officials, Staff, parade participants, volunteers, cooks, and servers that work diligently to make The World's Biggest Fish Fry a huge success.

Most of all, thank you to the citizens of Paris and Henry County for making The World's Biggest Fish Fry one of the premier celebrations not only in West Tennessee, but the world.

Sincerely,

Kathy Ray
Mayor
City of Paris, Tennessee

Here's How To Find Your Way Around The 73rd Annual World's Biggest Fish Fry





2026 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION	MAP KEY
GRAND OPENING <i>Join us as we dedicate this year's book and announce our Grand Marshal.</i>	MARCH 28	10:00AM	FISH FRY HEADQUARTERS 711 EAST WOOD STREET	A
HUSHPUDDY DASH 5K WALK/RUN <i>Registration starts at 7:00AM</i>	APRIL 18	8:00AM	TCAT HENRY / CARROLL	F
CAR & BIKE SHOW / CRUISE-IN	APRIL 18	8:00AM-2:00PM	FAIRGROUNDS	B
DEMOLITION DERBY <i>Entry Fee: \$50; Admission: \$15; 5 and Under: Free; Pit Passes: \$25</i>	APRIL 18	7:00PM	FAIRGROUNDS	B
KICK-OFF / STREET DANCE <i>Entertainment By: Ray Lewis Band, Free Admission</i>	APRIL 20	7:00PM-9:00PM	DOWNTOWN	C
CARNIVAL <i>PrimeTime Carnival</i>	APRIL 21	5:00PM-11:00PM	FAIRGROUNDS	B
	<i>Tuesday: \$5 off Armbands w/ School Coupon</i>			
	APRIL 22-23	5:00PM-11:00PM	FAIRGROUNDS	
	<i>Wed. & Thurs.: \$25 Armbands / Individual Tickets Available</i>			
	APRIL 24-25	11:00AM-11:00PM		
	<i>Friday & Saturday: \$30 Armbands good for all day / Individual Tickets Available</i>			
	APRIL 26	12:00PM-6:00PM		
	<i>Sunday: \$25 Armbands / Individual Tickets Available</i>			
COUNTRY DANCE <i>Entertainment By: The James Greer Band, Admission: \$5</i>	APRIL 21	7:00PM-10:00PM	FAIRGROUNDS	B
FISH TENT <i>ALL YOU CAN EAT Catfish: Adult: \$20; Children 6-12: \$12</i>	APRIL 22	5:00PM-9:00PM	FAIRGROUNDS	B
	APRIL 23-25	11:00AM-9:00PM		
CHRISTIAN CONCERT <i>Entertainment By: Nathan Shoemaker Band, \$5 donation</i>	APRIL 22	7:00PM-8:30PM	FAIRGROUNDS	B
ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW (4/22 IS OUTSIDE VENDORS ONLY)	APRIL 22	5:00PM-8:30PM	FAIRGROUNDS	B
	APRIL 23	5:00PM-8:30PM		
	APRIL 24-25	10:00AM-8:30PM		
THE GRAND PARADE	APRIL 24	10:00AM	EAST WOOD STREET	D
CHAMPIONSHIP BULLS & BARRELS SHOWDOWN <i>Parsons & Milam</i>	APRIL 24-25	7:30PM	FAIRGROUNDS	B
	<i>Admission: \$15; Children 6-12: \$12; Children 5 and Under: Free w/ Paying Adult BUY IN ADVANCE: Adults \$12, Children \$7</i>			
SMALL FRY PARADE	APRIL 25	10:00AM	FIRST BAPTIST / DOWNTOWN	G
THE BILL WILLIAMS CATFISH RACES <i>Free Admission; Entry Fee: \$25 Donation to Real Hope Youth Center</i>	APRIL 25	11:00AM	COURT SQUARE	C
JUNIOR FISHING RODEO <i>Free for Children 12 and Under</i>	APRIL 25	11:00AM-1:00PM	WILLIAMS LAKE	E

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Hostess Princess 2026



Ali Ridgeway

It's officially time to celebrate the treasured tradition that makes Henry County truly special! As the 2026 Hostess Princess, Ali Ridgeway, I would love to welcome you to the 73rd World's Biggest Fish Fry. Being a small part of something that brings our entire community together is such a blessing and dream come true. I am beyond grateful to serve and uphold this prestigious job while representing a tradition that means so much to our small town.

I want to give a heartfelt thank you to my incredible court that I have the privilege of spending my year and Fish Fry week alongside. We are going to make some incredible memories of a lifetime! These four young women are truly some of the kindest, caring, fun, and genuine people I know. I am so thankful to experience this journey with them: First Maid, Jayla Boutwell; Second Maid, Kylee French; Third Maid, Madeline Gotshall; Fourth Maid, Madison Melton.

Next, I would like to give an enormous thank you to the PHC Jaycees that make this action-packed week run smoothly. Your time, energy, and sacrifice you pour into making Fish Fry successful does not go unnoticed. You all work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure everything is organized, and our community is better because of your commitment. If you see one of these members, be sure to pat them on the back and offer a thank you for all they do!

Finally, to our generous local business and sponsors that make this possible, thank you for your continued support. Because of each of you, Fish Fry grows bigger and better each year! We are so grateful for the opportunities and encouragement we have received from each of you. We look forward to another great year and it could not be possible without your support.

The World's Biggest Fish Fry is pack filled with many exciting activities for the entire family and community – from thrilling carnival rides and fast-paced catfish races to the energizing demolition derby and the iconic Grand Parade – and SO MUCH more! I look forward to spending this memorable, precious week with each of you!

With love, your 2026 WBFF Hostess Princess,
Ali Ridgeway

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THE 73RD WORLD'S BIGGEST FISH FRY PROUDLY WELCOMES CHRIS MARTIN 2026 GENERAL MANAGER

This marks Chris's fifth time serving in this leadership role, having previously guided the Fish Fry in 2002, 2005, 2006, and 2014. In 2006, he also served as President of the Paris-Henry County Jaycees while simultaneously leading the Fish Fry as General Manager — a testament to his dedication, energy, and commitment to the community.

Chris joined the Paris-Henry County Jaycees in 1998 and has never slowed down. For nearly three decades, he has been a driving force behind countless projects, earning a reputation as a leader who not only has a vision but knows how to turn that vision into reality.

A longtime businessman in our community, Chris has owned and operated Chris Martin Construction since 1997. He moved to Paris in 1991 with his father's construction company when Emerson Tool Company came to town, and he has invested in the growth and betterment of Paris-Henry County ever since.

Chris currently serves on the Board of the Paris Country Club, is President of the World's Biggest Fish Fry, Inc. Board, and is a founding member of the civic organization R.A.K. (Random Acts of Kindness). Through Martin Construction, he has generously donated his time, his employees' time, and equipment to numerous causes — building homes for Habitat for Humanity, providing and manning the grill for Jaycee benefits, and having essential equipment to use at the fairgrounds that we need to operate before, during and after Fish Fry.

While the Fish Fry holds a special place in his heart, another event especially meaningful to Chris is the Jaycee Christmas Shopping Tour. Through fundraising efforts throughout the year, the Jaycees are able to take children shopping for Christmas, helping make the holiday season brighter for families across our community.

Above all, Chris is most proud of his two daughters. Emma Kay, 24, is a licensed cosmetologist at Floating Lotus Salon and Spa. Christine, 20, is a junior at the University of Tennessee at Martin studying Marketing and is set to graduate in May 2027. She is also the owner of Christine Martin Photography.

The World's Biggest Fish Fry is honored to have Chris Martin once again leading the way. His experience, generosity, and unwavering dedication to Paris-Henry County continue to make a lasting impact on our community.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It takes a village to host the World's Biggest Fish Fry, and this year's "village" was nothing short of spectacular. We owe a debt of gratitude to the City of Paris, Henry County Government, Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce, Paris-Henry County Rescue Squad, AMR Ambulance Service, Air Evac LifeTeam, Henry County Sheriff Office, Paris Police Department, Paris Henry County Country Club, and all the local churches and businesses that stepped up to help. To our sponsors and the Henry County Tourism Authority: thank you for believing in this tradition and helping us share it with the world.

To our Jaycees: thank you for your grit and hard work. We know that your service is only possible because of the patience and support of your families and employers. To every person who pitched in—thank you. You are the reason this event succeeds. We can't wait to welcome you back next year!

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

On behalf of the Paris-Henry County Jaycees, it is my honor to welcome you to the 73rd Annual World's Biggest Fish Fry. As this year's President, I am incredibly excited to see our community come together once again to celebrate a tradition that has defined Henry County for over seven decades. We aren't just frying catfish, we are carrying on a legacy of fellowship and service that spans generations.

This year's schedule is packed with the events we all love, from the Grand Parade and the thrill of the carnival to the high-energy Demolition Derby and Championship Bulls and Barrels Showdown, and, of course, the legendary Fish Tent. There truly is something for everyone to enjoy as we bring our community together to share the best hospitality our town has to offer.

An event of this scale would be impossible without the tireless dedication of my fellow Jaycees, whose hard work and dedication ensure the World's Biggest Fish Fry remains a success year after year. I also want to extend a sincere thank you to our local sponsors and the entire community. Your unwavering support allows us to continue our mission of service throughout Paris and Henry County. Grab a plate, enjoy the festivities, and let's make this 73rd year our best one yet!

See you at the Fish Tent,

CHRIS PARKER

25-26 PRESIDENT, PARIS-HENRY COUNTY JAYCEES

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GENERAL MANAGER



CHRIS HOLLINGSWORTH
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ASST. TREASURER



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PAST GEN. MANAGER



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HISTORY OF THE WORLD'S BIGGEST FISH FRY

The "Fish Fry" evolved from "Mule Day," which originated in 1938 with the Paris Post Intelligencer as the first sponsor. Farmers came to town on the first Monday in April to trade their mules and other farm products, do their shopping, and enjoy the fellowship of their friends. Early in the 1950's, the Chamber of Commerce took over "Mule Day" and the tractors took the place of mules. The Chamber of Commerce started looking for another event to replace "Mule Day."

In 1953, the Chamber of Commerce held the first "Fish Fry." The event was not as successful as hoped. The fish were not taken from Kentucky Lake and just did not please the fish eating public. The parade was short but sweet, and the event was held on Barton Field for one day and night.

In 1961, the Paris-Henry County Jaycees took over the "Fish Fry" from the Chamber of Commerce. The "Fish Fry" was starting to grow too much for the Chamber to handle, so the Jaycees (Junior Chamber of Commerce) took over the event, taking the name of "World's Biggest Fish Fry," an event that truly lives up to its name.

Since 1961, the "World's Biggest Fish Fry" has grown considerably – from 1,600 pounds to over 5 tons of catfish being cooked and served at the Robert E. "Bobby" Cox Memorial Fish Tent.

Community participation and support of the "World's Biggest Fish Fry" unites the community in many ways. Community involvement by attending one of the seven beauty pageants, buying souvenirs, eating fish dinners, attending the rodeo, entering or watching the Grand Parade or the Small Fry Parade, and going to the carnival makes the event successful.



The history of the "Fish Fry" started with the farmers and their mules. Each past "Fish Fry" makes new history by trying new and different things, increased attendance, more catfish served, and more community involvement.

The Paris-Henry County Jaycees hope to make the "World's Biggest Fish Fry" bigger and better each year.





Welcome to the 73rd Annual World's Biggest Fish Fry!



**2026 World's
Biggest Fish Fry
Hostess Princess Court**

**Photos by:
Christine Martin Photography**

2026 Hostess Princess

Hello and welcome to the 73rd World's Biggest Fish Fry!

My name is Ali Ridgeway, and I am honored to serve as your Hostess Princess. I am the 18-year-old daughter of Brad and Angie Ridgeway, as well as the younger sister to Eli Ridgeway. I am a current senior at Henry County High School and will attend The University of Alabama this upcoming fall to obtain a bachelor's degree in Sports Management and a master's degree in Hospitality Management to work in Gameday Operations within the professional sports league/the NCAA.

Throughout my high school years, I have kept myself busy in different leadership roles and activities. I competed in the Miss Tennessee Volunteer pageant system where I placed as a semi-finalist in 2023 and 2024, and rounded out my time as a 4th Runner-Up Finalist in 2025. Because of my many years within pageantry, I developed my personal platform of Inclusion for All where I began volunteering my time with The Levi Miles Foundation which led to the opportunity of planting the first Best Buddies International club and serving as the chapter President at HCHS. On top of Best Buddies, I hold the positions of DECA Club Secretary, Leo Club Secretary, Lady Patriots Basketball and Softball Stats keeper, and active within the National Honors Society, Red Swarm, 21+ Club, YoungLife, and Puzzle Club. I spend my Sundays at Tennessee Valley Community Church and my summer days working for Malone's Marine as a Kentucky Lake Boat Club and Paris Landing Pontoon Rental employee at the Old 76 Harbor.

As you can tell, I love to live life to the fullest and take on every opportunity that arises. Whether I am involved in school, extracurriculars, or community events, I always strive to represent my hometown with pride. Being selected as your 2026 WBFF Hostess Princess is truly one of the greatest honors of my life and a dream come true!

This tradition is truly something that is cherished and special beyond measure within our community. This unique, fun week brings our town together like no other and I could not be more excited to have a role within it. I look forward to representing this community, meeting new smiling faces, and celebrating everyone's favorite tradition. I would not want to serve any other community – and I can't wait to make this year one to remember!

-With love, your 2026 Hostess Princess, Ali Ridgeway



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—

2026 Hostess Princess First Maid



Hi, I am Jayla Boutwell, the daughter of Mitch Boutwell and Jessica Kinley. I am a senior at Henry County High School.

I am so excited to be your First Maid for the WBFF Hostess Princess Court. I am so ecstatic to be representing Henry County and be a part of this community! I have been a part of our HCHS Lady Patriots soccer team for all four years of high school. I am also involved with Best Buddies and Henry County Younglife.

My favorite hobbies include going to the gym and keeping a healthy lifestyle. When I'm not in the gym I am spending time with family and friends or volunteering in my community. I am honored to be a part of this amazing opportunity of First Maid and so excited for our 73rd Annual World's Biggest Fish Fry!

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2026 Hostess Princess Second Maid

My name is Kylee French, and I'm 16 years old. I'm a dedicated cheerleader who loves being part of a team and bringing energy and spirit to everything I do. I also have a huge passion for competing in pageants because they've helped me grow in confidence, leadership, and poise.

I'm proud to be the Second Maid for the Hostess Princess Pageant, an experience that pushed me to work hard and believe in myself.

Whether I'm cheering on the sidelines or stepping onto a stage, I always give my best and strive to represent my community with positivity and heart.

Kylee French

Welcome to the World's Biggest Fish Fry!



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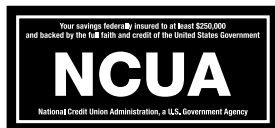
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2026 Hostess Princess Third Maid

Hi, my name is Madeline Gottshall. I am the daughter of Megan & Todd Gottshall and attend McKenzie High School.

I am incredibly honored to serve as Third Maid in the Hostess Princess Court and am so excited to represent Henry County at the World's Biggest Fish Fry. I look forward to becoming even more involved in our community and representing it with pride.

At McKenzie High School, I play basketball for the Lady Rebels and compete in cross country. I am actively involved in several clubs including DECA, Beta Club, McKenzie Maniacs (Pep Club), Student Council where I serve as Historian, Junior Class President, and M-Club for academic and athletic letter recipients. I also have a passion for pageantry and enjoy competing and representing my community through pageants. In my free time, I enjoy traveling and spending time with my friends and family. It is truly a privilege to represent Henry County and be part of such a special tradition.

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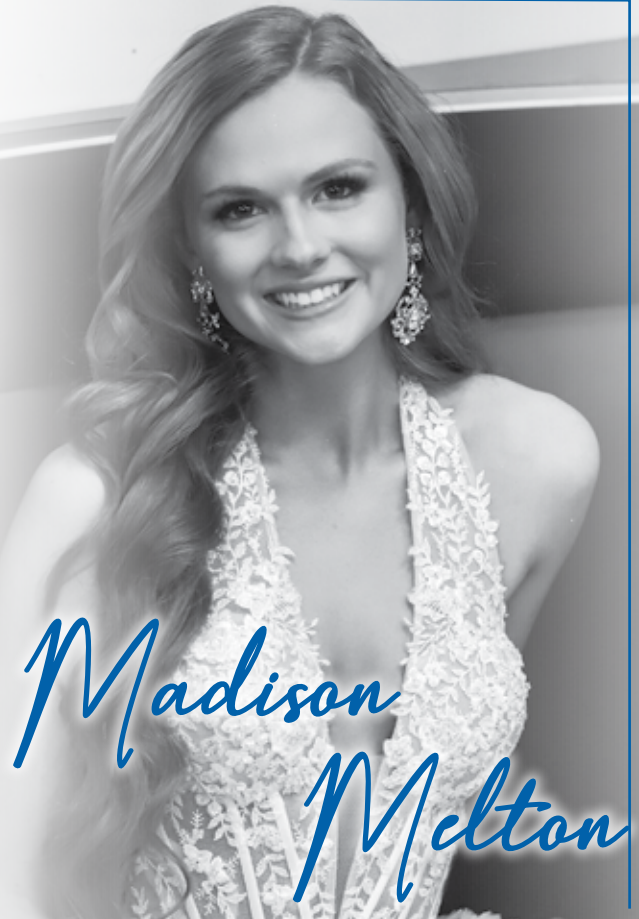
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2026 Hostess Princess Fourth Maid

Hey y'all! Welcome to the 73rd Annual World's Biggest Fish Fry! My name is Madison Grace Melton, & I am so honored to be your 2026 Hostess Princess Fourth Maid! I am the daughter of Micheal & Tabitha Melton, a 17 year old Senior, & the second oldest of six. After graduating, I plan on attending cosmetology school, & pursuing my dream of one day owning my own studio! I currently work for Parsons & Milam Rodeo, & Pleasant View Resort & Marina. My favorite hobbies include shopping, spending time with family, traveling, playing travel softball, volunteering in my community, & participating in local rodeos. Attending dance classes since I was two dance has always been an important part of my life. Inspiring me to work hard, & giving me the confidence to pursue my dreams.

Born & raised in Paris, Tn. I have attended the World's Biggest Fish Fry parade every year for the past 17 years. Some of my favorite Fish Fry memories include helping my family put on & participating in the Bulls & Barrels Showdown Rodeo, riding my horse in the Fish Fry Parade, & enjoying the delicious world famous catfish after an amazing day riding rides with family & friends. These are traditions that I look forward to each & every year, & are memories that I will cherish for years to come.

I am so excited & honored to be a part of this year's Hostess Princess Court, & I can't wait to experience all of the amazing things that this year's World's Biggest Fish Fry has to offer! I can't wait to see you all there! Happy Fish Fry!



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HOSTESS *Princess*

Ali Ridgeway (center) was chosen as the 2026 Hostess Princess during the culmination of the World's Biggest Fish Fry Pageants, Jan. 17, at the Krider Performing Arts Center. Her court includes (from left) **Madeline Gottshall**, third maid; **Jayla Boutwell**, first maid; **Kylee French**, second maid; and **Madison Melton**, fourth maid.

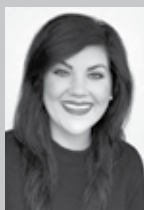
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MISS *Pre-Teen*

LANDRY FLOWERS
2026 PRINCESS

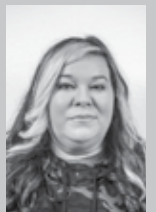
MIA SCOTT
FIRST MAID

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KENDALL OLIVER
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LITTLE Miss

SERENITY WILKINS
2026 PRINCESS

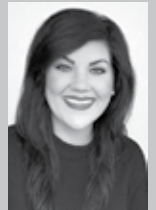
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2026 PRINCESS

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FIRST MAID

KALANI THARPE
SECOND MAID

OPHELIA ESPINOSA
THIRD MAID

PRESLEY GRAVES
FOURTH MAID

PAGEANT CHAIR



MICHELLE
VASSAR

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LITTLE Prince & LITTLE Princess

PAGEANT CHAIR



MICHELLE VASSAR

12-23 MONTH OLDS



ROMAN SCOTT, 2026 LITTLE PRINCE
RIVER GORDON, FIRST PAGE
BAYLOR MADDEN, SECOND PAGE

BRISTOL PRUITT, 2026 LITTLE PRINCESS
ECHO GORDON, FIRST MAID
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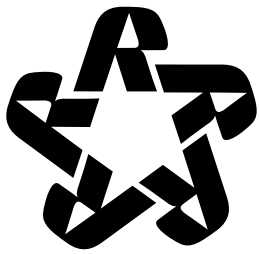
0-11 MONTH OLDS



ROY GRAVES, 2026 LITTLE PRINCE
DANIEL ENOCH, FIRST PAGE

ADALYNN SMITH, 2026 LITTLE PRINCESS
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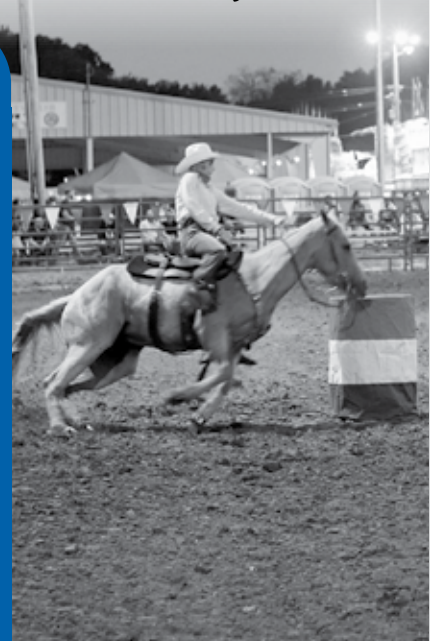
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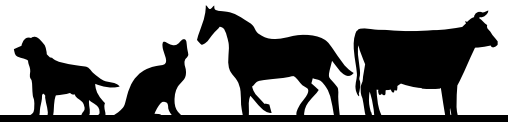
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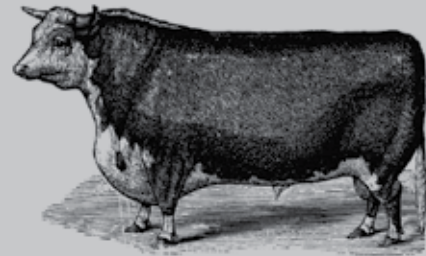


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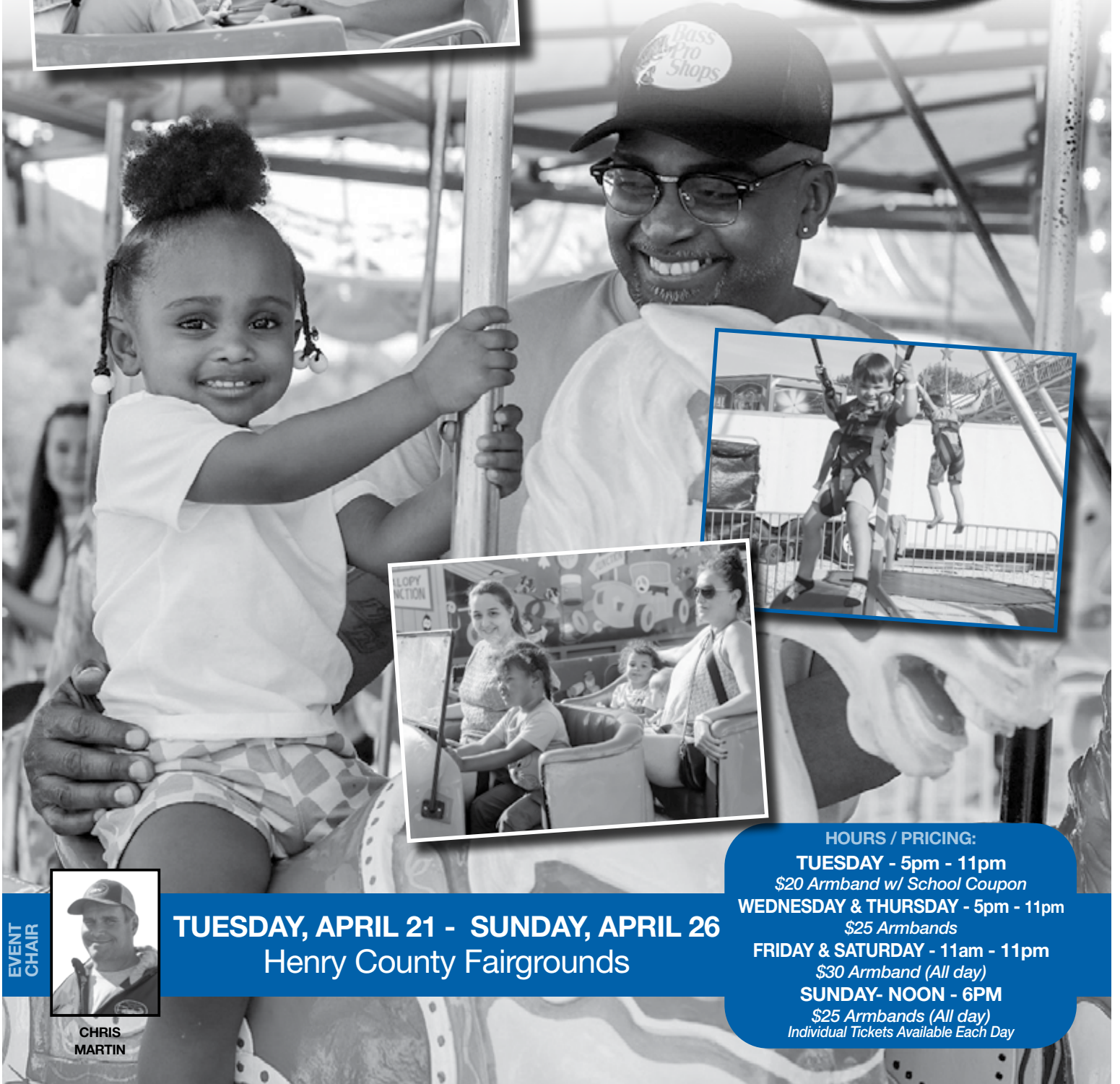
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**JOE
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**DAVID "TATER"
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11 AM - 9 PM THURS. - SAT. • APRIL 23 - 25

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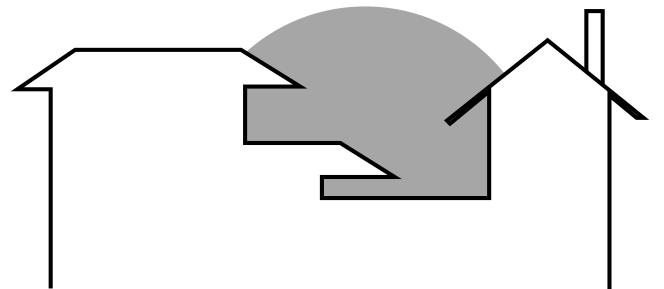
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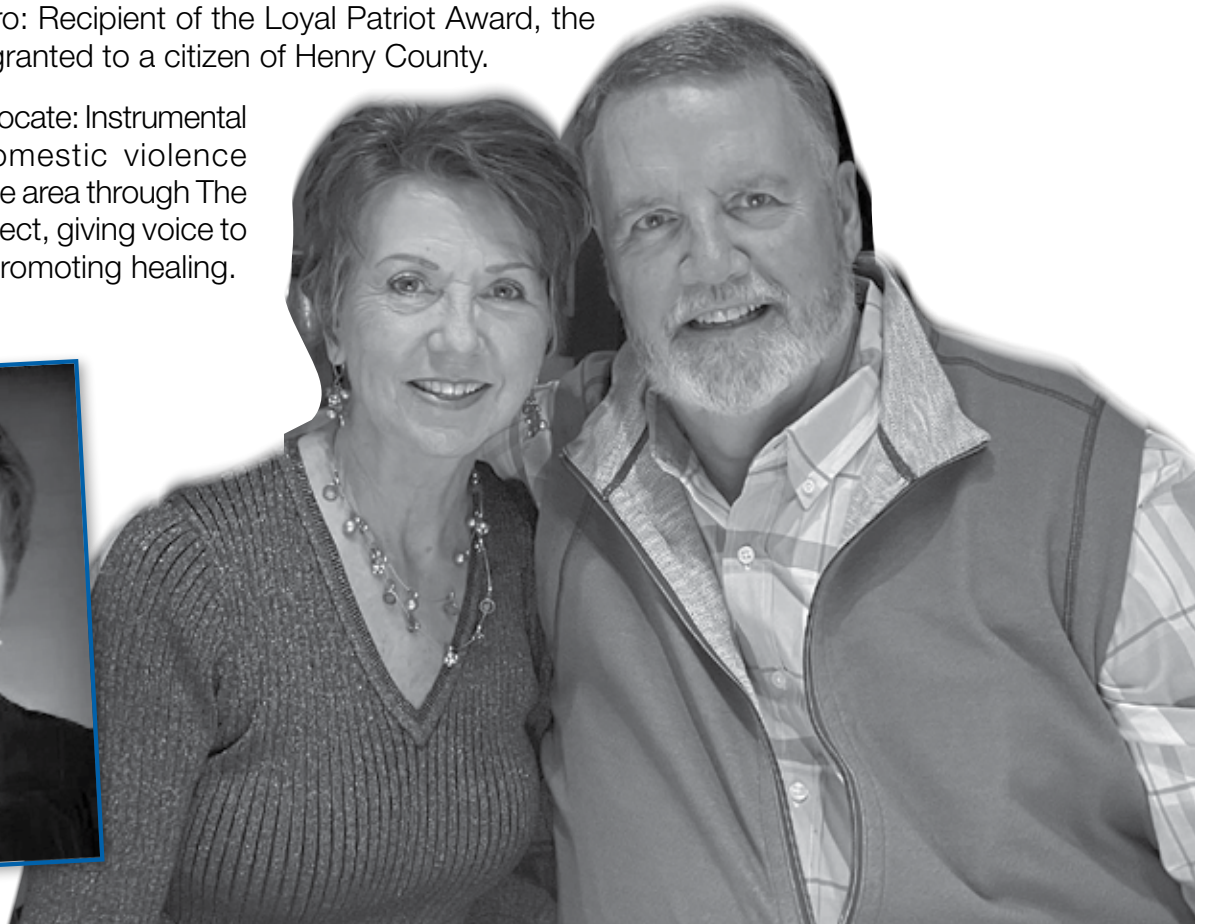
Vicki Shepherd Snyder

A Legacy of Faith and Service

It is with deep gratitude and pride that we honor Judge Vicki Shepherd Snyder as Grand Marshal of the World's Biggest Fish Fry Parade.

Why We Celebrate Judge Snyder:

- Decades of Dedicated Service: Retiring in 2026 after 20 years as Henry County's General Sessions and Juvenile Court Judge, she faithfully served this community with integrity and compassion.
- A Champion for Children: Founder of Henry County's CASA program and the Safe Baby Court, ensuring protection, advocacy, and hope for the county's most vulnerable youth. She also just received the Jim Pryor Child Advocate of the Year honor.
- State-Wide Trailblazer: The first female judge to receive the prestigious Judge Leon Ruben Award for Excellence (2019), setting a standard of leadership across Tennessee.
- Legislative Leader: Played a pivotal role in shaping Tennessee's Juvenile Justice Reform Act and the Truancy Prevention Act, strengthening families and communities statewide.
- Hometown Hero: Recipient of the Loyal Patriot Award, the highest honor granted to a citizen of Henry County.
- Community Advocate: Instrumental in bringing domestic violence awareness to the area through The Clothesline Project, giving voice to survivors and promoting healing.



MARSHAL

Judge Snyder's life has been guided by faith, service, and a steadfast belief that every individual—especially every child—is created with purpose and worth. For two decades, she served Henry County with integrity, wisdom, and compassion, viewing her role not simply as a position of authority, but as a calling. Her leadership on the bench reflected both justice and mercy, grounded in the conviction that communities are strengthened when families are supported and children are protected.



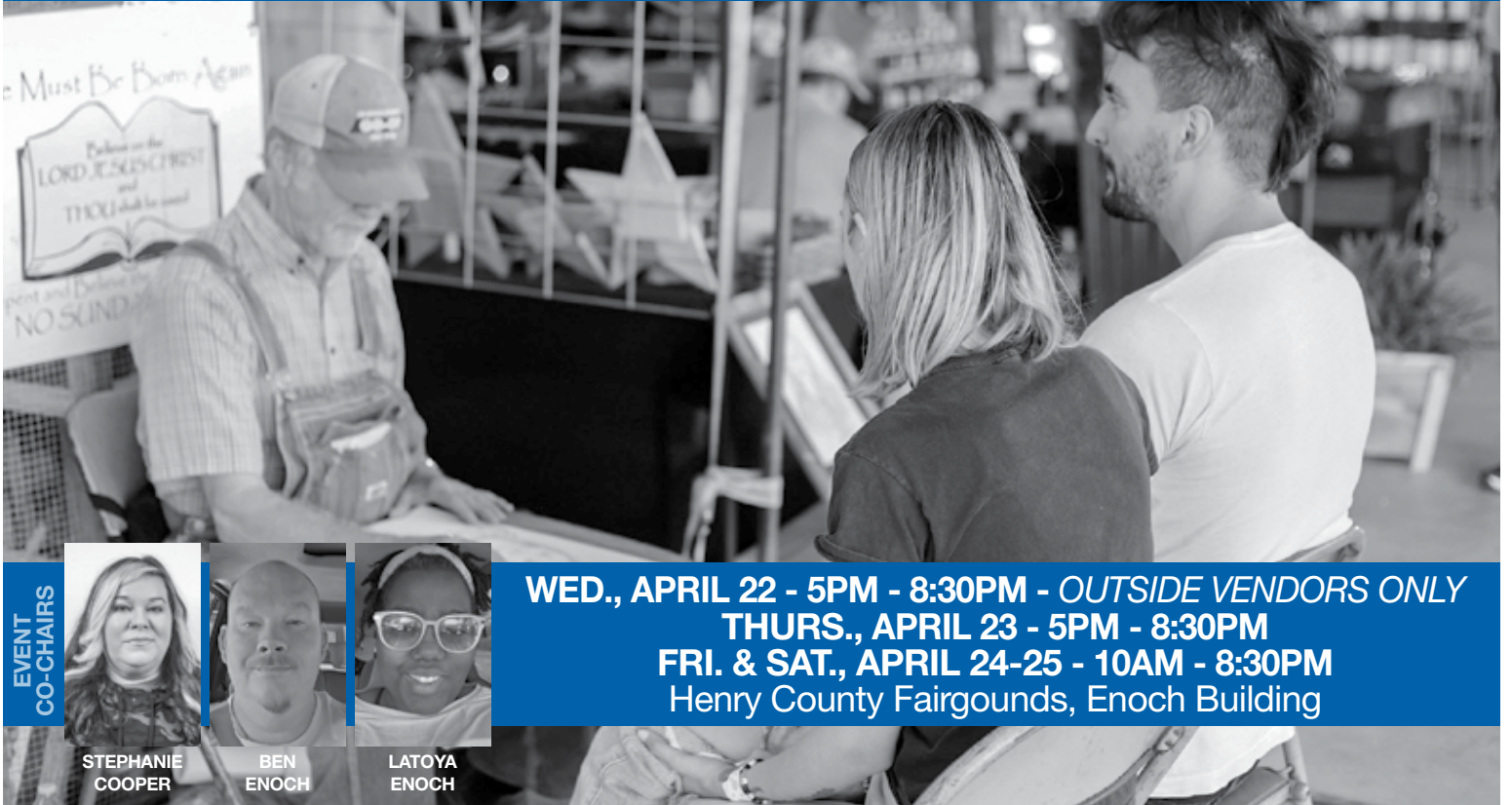
Her instrumental work in bringing CASA to Henry County and establishing Safe Baby Court stands as a powerful testament to her heart for the most vulnerable. Through these efforts, she ensured that children would have advocates, families would receive guidance, and hope would be restored where it was needed most. Her influence on juvenile justice reform across Tennessee further reflects her commitment to doing what is right—not just in law, but in spirit.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Judge Snyder has modeled servant leadership in every corner of this community—through civic organizations like the Athenia Delphian Club, mentorship, and unwavering dedication to the betterment of Henry County. She was a part of the class of 2024 West Star Leadership Program and has lived out the principle that true leadership is measured not by title, but by impact.

Most importantly, she is the daughter of Reed and Peggy Shepherd and a sister to Mike Shepherd. She is a devoted wife to Mark, a loving mother to Kari, Meredith, and Justin, and a proud Mim to Kinley, Baylen, Hannah, and Kollins. Her faith and love for her family have been the foundation of her strength and service.

As we celebrate this cherished tradition of the World's Biggest Fish Fry, we honor a woman whose life reflects faith in action, service above self, and a legacy that will bless this community for generations. We are proud to recognize Judge Vicki Shepherd Snyder as our Grand Marshal.





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GRAND PARADE

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The World's Biggest Fish Fry Grand Parade will be held on Friday, April 24, 2026, beginning at 10:00 am. Once again, the Grand Parade route will be unchanged to make it even easier for everyone involved. The Grand Parade will be headed East on Wood Street. The bands will unload at Ogburn Park as usual, then head to the Fairgrounds to their designated boarding area for band members after the parade.

Floats will be lined up on Wood Street next to the curb headed East. All other entries will be in the Church of Christ parking lot. The horses will be asked to unload and prepare at the lower level of Ogburn Park. Also, all judging will be done prior to the start of the parade.

As in the years past we are constantly working to make the flow of traffic at the mixing point of the Grand Parade less confusing, the event more organized and the people along the parade route more entertained.

For the safety of all parade participants and viewers, only authorized vehicles will be allowed on the parade route. Also, poppers or fireworks are not permitted.

To everyone involved, prior to, during or after, the Grand Parade is over — THANK YOU for your help! Without your countless man-hours helping to move the reviewing stands, lining up and numbering the bands and all other entrants, we could not have pulled off the parade for so many years so well!



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1961-62	George Wesson				
1963	Doyle Owen				
1964	George Wesson				
1965-66	Gerald White	George Wesson			
1967	Bob Brandon				
1968	Don Willoughby				
1969	Bill Winn	Dan Vincent			
1970	Tommy Reed	LeRoy McClanahan	Jimmy Dale Hart	Bill Reed	Jamie Hassell
1971	Bennie Akers	Johnny Brown	Jamie Hassell	Bob Toombs	Bill Reed
1972	Bennie Akers	Gayle Griffith	Jamie Hassell	Bill Reed	Tommy Reed
1973	Gayle Griffith	Larry Clark	Bill Greer	Bill Reed	Bennie Akers
1974	Van Ball	Larry Clark	Jimmy Cox	Tommy Reed	Bill Reed
1975	Larry Clark	Larry Mahan	Greg Corbitt	Bill Reed	Ted Todd
1976	Larry Mahan	Greg Corbitt	Harold Sykes	Ted Todd	Van Ball
1977	Harold Sykes	Gary Langford	Steve Perry	Dennis Beall	Tommy Kesterson
1978	Dwayne Baldwin	Steve Milan	Larry Wilson	Lee Greer	Steve Perry
1979	Zane McCoy	Don Peale	Jeff Crawford	Van Ball	Larry Mahan
1980	Steve Perry	Randy Prince	Don Jackson	Don Peale	Greg Corbitt
1981	Landy Clary	Mike Ainley	Gary Graham	Wyatt Owens	Dwayne Baldwin
1982	Randy Prince	Don Peale	Gary Poteat	Wyatt Owens	Mike Ainley
1983	Don Peale	Wyatt Owens	John Dunlap	Gary Poteat	Landy Clary
1984	Steve Hart	Jed Weiher	Robert Horner	David Smith	Wyatt Owens
1985	Bill Wenzler	Bill Williams	Robert Horner	David Smith	Don Peale
1986	Wyatt Owens	Randy Prince	Steve Hart	Landy Clary	Robert Horner
1987	Mike Ainley	David Owens	Gary Nored	Landy Clary	Bill Wenzler
1988	Robert Horner	Gary Nored	Jeff Marr	Rick Nash	David "Tater" Hayes
1989	Gary Nored	David "Tater" Hayes	Jeff Marr	Bernice Hart	Rick Nash
1990	David "Tater" Hayes	Jeff Marr	Brad Willoughby		David Clayton
1991	Jeff Marr	Brad Willoughby	Nancy Carpenter		
1992	Brad Willoughby	Monte Starks	Pam "P.K." Hill	Loria Plunk	David "Tater" Hayes
1993	Monte Starks	Robert Owens	David "Tater" Hayes	Loria Plunk	Jeff Marr
1994	Nancy Carpenter	Brian Foster	Kenitha Jackson	Kim Foster	Loria Plunk
1995	David "Tater" Hayes	Brian Foster	Toni Nored	Becky Alexander	James "Rock" Hrachovina
1996	Brad "Chicken" Willoughby	James "Rock" Hrachovina	Jennifer Paschall	Becky Alexander	Micky Eaton
1997	James "Rock" Hrachovina	Micky Eaton	Pam Petty	Loria Plunk	Monte Starks
1998	Monte Starks	Tim Wirgau	Jeff Marr	DJ Hrachovina	Jennifer Paschall
1999	Tim Wirgau	James "Rock" Hrachovina	Angie Tucker	DJ Hrachovina	Albert Vasser
2000	David "Tater" Hayes	James "Rock" Hrachovina	Pam Martin	Andrea Lamb	Barbie Anderson
2001	Dwayne Baldwin	Chris Martin	Candy Reed	DJ Hrachovina	Troy Rutland
2002	Chris Martin	Jennifer Starks	Troy Rutland	DJ Hrachovina	Candy Reed
2003	James "Rock" Hrachovina	Albert Vasser	Loria Plunk	Danielle Sykes	Tammy Rutland
2004	Albert Vassar	Chris Hollingsworth	Chris Martin	Danielle "DJ" Hrachovina	Toni Kaye Bowden
2005	Chris Martin	Chris Hollingsworth	Toni Kaye Bowden	Danielle "DJ" Hrachovina	Chris Hollingsworth
2006	Chris Martin	Loria Plunk	Toni Kaye Bowden	Danielle "DJ" Hrachovina	Chris Martin
2007	Loria Plunk	Toni Kaye Bowden	Kim French	Danielle "DJ" Hrachovina	Dan Nichols
2008	Kreg Kyle	Toni Kaye Bowden	Andrea Lamb	Danielle "DJ" Hrachovina	Dan Nichols
2009	Toni Kaye Bowden	Brian Ray French	Kimmi French	Danielle "DJ" Hrachovina	Dan Nichols
2010	Brian Ray French	David Stone	Lisa Stone	Danielle "DJ" Hrachovina	Kimmi French
2011	David Stone	Micky Eaton	Tracy Loines	Loria Plunk	Micky Eaton
2012	Micky Eaton	Andrea Lamb	Kristian Elliott	Loria Plunk	Cathy Williams
2013	Andrea Lamb	Patrick Cooper	Stephanie Cooper	Loria Plunk	Brian Ray French
2014	Chris Martin	Patrick Cooper	Cathy Williams	Loria Plunk/Janna Stubblefield	Lisa Stone
2015	Patrick Cooper	Brian Ray French	Ashley Taylor	Traci Raymer/Janna Stubblefield	Chris Martin
2016	Loria Plunk	Josh Taylor	Lisa Stone	Traci Raymer / Cathy Williams	Cecilia Casey
2017	Josh Taylor	Lisa Stone	Cecilia Casey	Cathy Williams / Loria Plunk	Jessica Damesworth
2018	Lisa Stone	Cecilia Casey	Jamie Fairbanks	Cathy Williams / Jessica Damesworth	Jessica Damesworth
2019	Cecilia Casey	Loria Plunk	Kelly Biggs Corbitt	Cathy Williams / Jessica Damesworth	Jessica Damesworth
2020	Loria Plunk	Jordan Holland	Kelly Biggs Corbitt	Jessica Damesworth / Cathy Williams	Patrick Cooper
2021	Loria Plunk	Jordan Holland	Kayla Casey	Jessica Damesworth / Cathy Williams	Patrick Cooper
2022	Jordan Holland	Brandon Lackey	April Summers	Jessica Damesworth / Cathy Williams	Stephanie Cooper
2023	Brandon Lackey	John Paul Casey	April Summers	Jessica Damesworth/Cecilia Casey/Cathy Williams	Brandon Lackey
2024	John Paul Casey	Jennifer Starks	April Summers	Jessica Damesworth/Cecilia Casey/Cathy Williams	Jaime Fairbanks
2025	Jennifer Starks	Chris Martin	April Summers	Jessica Damesworth/Cecilia Casey/Cathy Williams	Kayla Casey
2026	Chris Martin	Chris Hollingsworth	Nicole Holland	Cecilia Casey/Cathy Williams/Jessica Damesworth	Chris Parker



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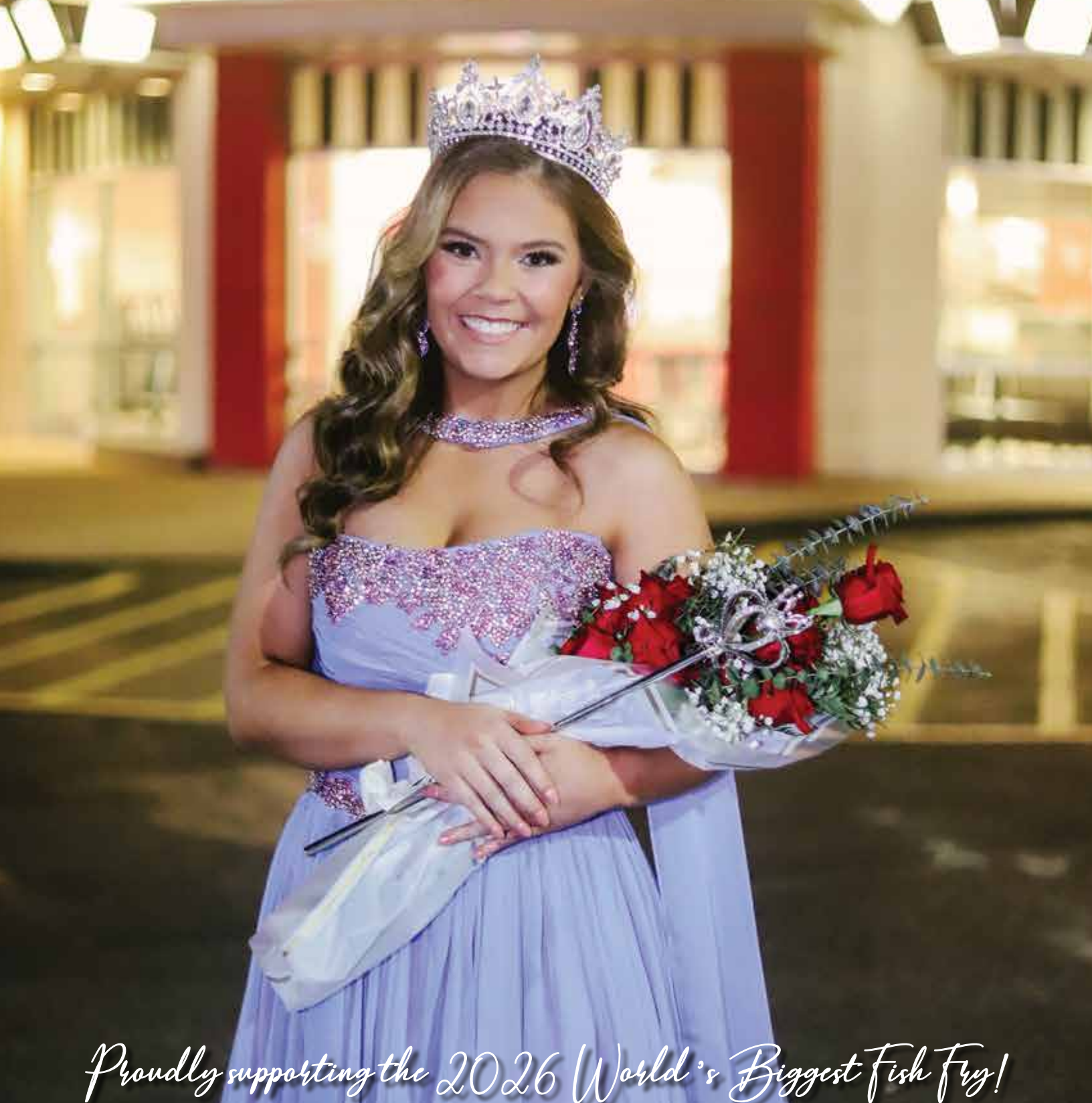
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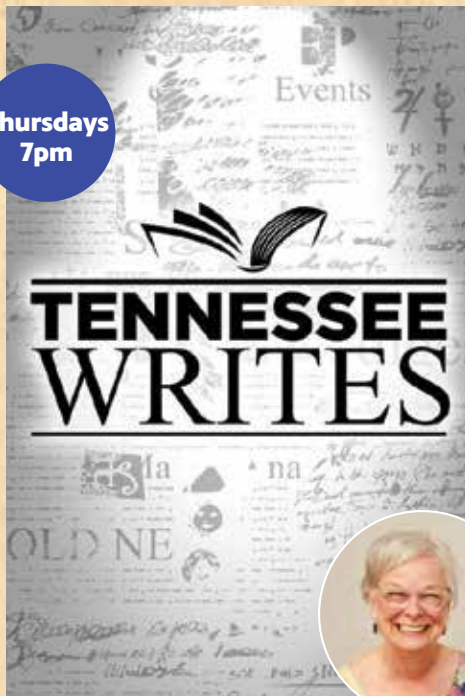
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LOCAL AUTHORS IN THE SPOTLIGHT NEW LOCAL WLJT-TV 11 SHOW

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Since *Tennessee Writes*' premiere, WLJT has had an overwhelming response from viewers all over West Tennessee and the literary community. Every week viewers contact WLJT suggesting authors they know to be featured on the program. *Tennessee Writes* airs Thursday nights at 7 and you can stream all episodes on YouTube, the PBS App, and website, westnpbs.org.



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Local bluegrass legend Wayne Jerrolds' is now part of WLJT-TV's Saturday night lineup. His program, *Songs of Yesterday*, airs 8p-9p, following The Lawrence Welk Show.

Wayne Jerrolds' Songs of Yesterday features a mix of bluegrass, country, and gospel music with local musicians from West Tennessee and neighboring Southern states.

Jerrolds is a well-known bluegrass musician from Savannah, Tennessee and has been playing the fiddle since childhood. He has won over a hundred fiddle competitions and has performed with country greats including, Reba McEntire, Loretta Lynn, and toured with the father of bluegrass, Bill Monroe. Jerrolds has played over a hundred performances at the Grand Ole Opry. In addition to watching his show every Saturday night, you can stream episodes on YouTube, the PBS App, and website, westnpbs.org.



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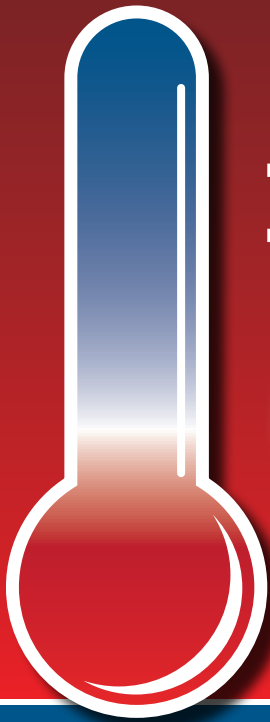
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Chris Parker
Director of Operations

"I love the World's Biggest Fish Fry because it brings the entire community together to celebrate the traditions and spirit that make Paris feel like home."



Nathan Scott
Affiliate Broker

"My favorite part of Fish Fry is the simple reminder that there's no place like home."



Alexandria Stout
Affiliate Broker

"I love Fish Fry week in Paris because it turns our small town into the biggest, happiest reunion of the year - with the parade, friends, and fried fish all in one place."

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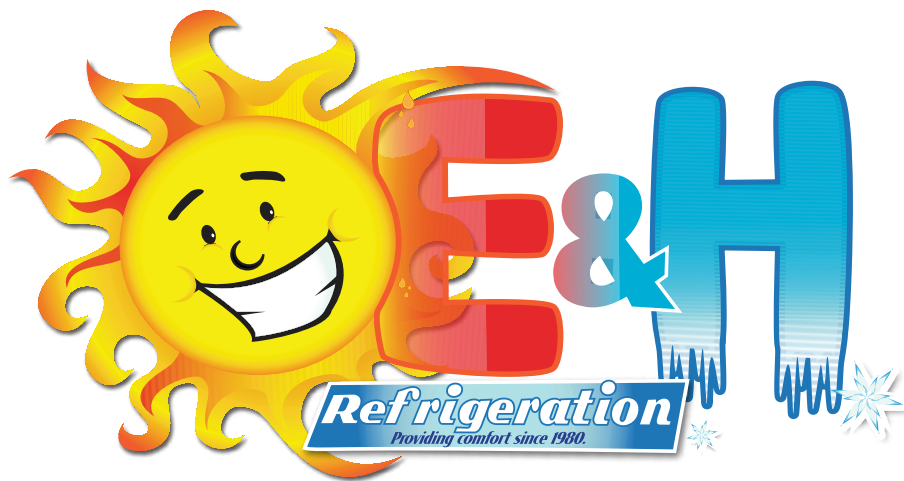
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fishing fish·ing /fɪ-ʃɪŋ/ n.
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 2. the activity of spending time on the water in search of fish.

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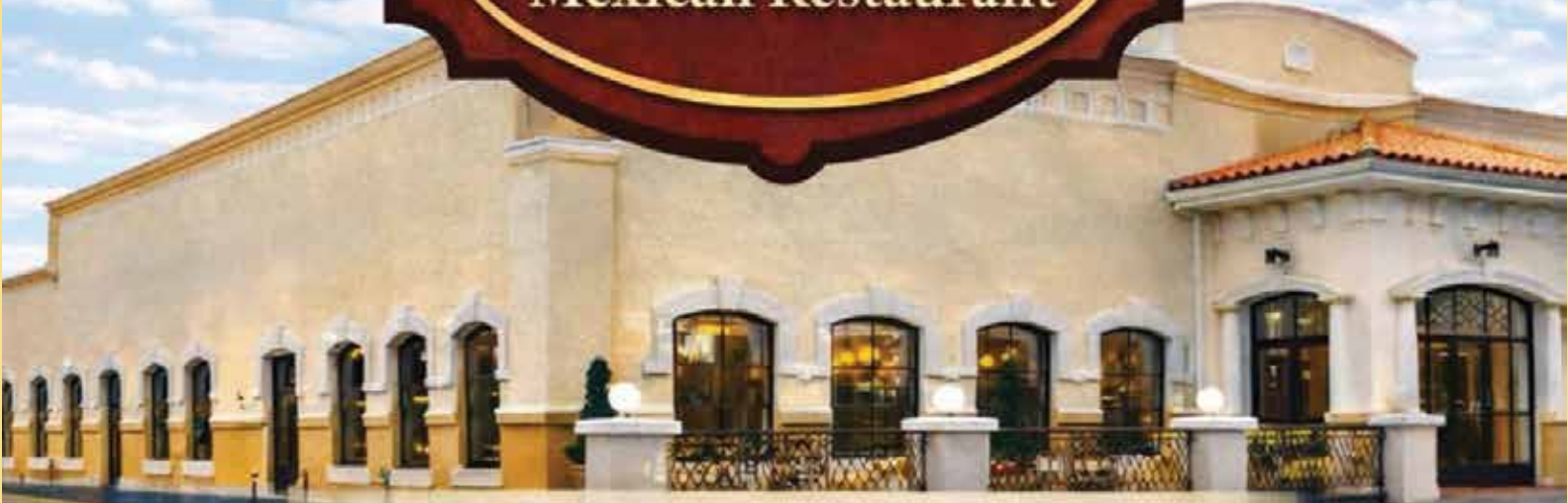


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