

WXMX / Agenda

July 5, 2015

6:00am – 6:30am

Youth Villages YV Lifeset

Every year, about 23,000 foster youth age out of state custody and juvenile justice placements. These young people face much higher chances of unemployment, homelessness, teenage parenthood and living lives at or below the poverty line than young people who were not in state care. Youth Villages, which has an office in Knoxville and is one of Tennessee's largest nonprofits, provides YVLifeSet services to every former foster youth in Tennessee who wants help making a successful transition into independent adulthood.

About YV LifeSet:

- Tennessee is the only state that provides such services to every young person aging out of state custody
- Provided through a unique private-public partnership of the state of Tennessee's Department of Children's Services and donors to Youth Villages
- The YVLifeSet study is the largest study ever conducted in the United States on a program dedicated to helping youth aging out
- YVLifeSet was found to positively affect young people's economic well-being by increasing their earnings, positively impact their mental health, positively affect their housing stability and help young people decrease the likelihood they end up and remain in violent relationships

Avery Duncan with Youth Villages and former foster teen Justice Rutherford talked about the program

July 12, 2015

Back to School Family Event

This event gets students and parents ready to go back to school and is sponsored in part by the non-profit Church Health Center. On Saturday July 18th at 9:00am at the Student Alumni Center of UT Health Science Center on Madison Avenue, a 27 year collaboration of professional Mid-South Healthcare Providers are once again coming together to provide an array of free services to the residents of Memphis and Shelby County.

Free pre-school screenings will be offered for the entering little ones, and for the entire family free eye exams, dental screenings and so many other services all done by Medical doctors and or certified medical personnel.

Free immunization by Shelby County Health Department will be available for all students including entertaining college freshman who are 18yrs of age or younger. Students will also receive free backpacks (1st 1000 students only) and free lunch for attending. There will be a host

of other vendors providing information and services, and Erskine Gillespie from the Mid-South Transplant Foundation and Sterling McNeal from the Church Health Center had details.

July 19, 2015

Youth Villages Dodge This Dodgeball Tournament

Every year, about 23,000 foster youth age out of state custody and juvenile justice placements. These young people face much higher chances of unemployment, homelessness, teenage parenthood and living lives at or below the poverty line than young people who were not in state care. Youth Villages, which has an office in Knoxville and is one of Tennessee's largest nonprofits, provides YVLifeSet services to every former foster youth in Tennessee who wants help making a successful transition into independent adulthood. A recent 5 year study, conducted by MDRC and Dr. Mark Courtney of the University of Chicago, is the largest random assignment evaluation of a program serving this population and one of the first to show multiple positive benefits for youth. More than 1,300 young people in Tennessee participated in the study and received services from either YVLifeSet or other programs available in their communities. Researchers studied both groups to determine the impact of the Youth Villages program.

Amanda Mullen, Development Coordinator for Youth Villages, talked about the study, overall organization and their largest fundraiser, the annual upcoming Dodge This Dodgeball Tournament.

July 26, 2015

Literacy Mid-South

Previously named the Memphis Literacy Council and Mid-South Reads, LMS has been working to increase the literacy of mid-southerners for over 30 years through group literacy classes, individual tutoring, and resourcing other non-profits that work toward our mission of *creating a community actively engaged in continuous learning*.

The 2nd Annual 2015 Mid-South Book Festival will be held September 9-13 at Playhouse on the Square and Circuit Playhouse and will feature the following:

Author panel discussions and presentations featuring 75 authors from around the United States, author signings, [student writers conferences](#), a street fair on Cooper Avenue with food trucks, author presentations, and children's activities, [The Well Read Reception](#) for book lovers to meet their favorite authors, and [A Literacy Summit](#) for educators and nonprofit leaders. Executive Director Kevin Dean discussed the festival.

August 2, 2015

Church Health Center

Dr. Scott Morris, a family practice physician and ordained United Methodist minister, founded the Church Health Center in 1987 to provide quality, affordable healthcare for working, uninsured people and their families. Thanks to a broad base of financial support from the faith community, and the volunteer help of doctors, nurses, dentists and others, the Church Health Center [Clinic](#) has grown to become the largest faith-based healthcare organization of its type in the country.

The Church Health Center has one more reason to be excited about Crosstown as Rock for Love announces its 2015 music festival line-up and other surprises in store for the ninth annual event, happening Sept. 4-6 at locations across midtown.

The festival kicks off Thursday with a comedy show and Friday is a concerts night with a Crosstown Block Party that will bring together more partners and feature more stages than the inaugural event on the Cleveland strip in 2014.

Between sets, \$5 donations to the Church Health Center will be collected. Saturday is a night of live music as well.

Beyond the packed music line-up, an online auction with amazing items from local merchants and artists, a signature brew courtesy of Memphis Made, and the launch of the Operation Crosstown Fitness Park.

Rock for Love continues to be a marquee event for the Church Health Center – in 2014 the festival raised \$50,000 – and Communications Director Marvin Stockwell said the growth of the Crosstown element of this year's event is no coincidence.

“As we look toward 2016, our focus is on building momentum in the Crosstown neighborhood,” he says. “As such, it makes perfect sense that the piece of Rock for Love that will see the most growth this year is our Crosstown Block Party.”

The block party is of course just one piece of the CHC's ongoing move into Crosstown, as Memphians anxiously await the completion of the Crosstown Concourse project with the CHC as an anchor tenant. Operation Crosstown activities – including the new fitness park – began in 2014 and are already bringing a CHC presence and new vitality to the neighborhood.

Marvin Stockwell, Executive Director of the Church Health Center, talked about the festival.

August 9, 2015

Humane Society of Memphis

The Humane Society of Memphis & Shelby County has worked in the Memphis community since 1933 to give injured and abused dogs and cats a second chance at life. The organization provides a safe place to recover, nutritious food and outstanding veterinary care for an average of 300

animals at a time. HSMSC staff and volunteers provide training, affection and socialization to the animals in their care to help them be adopted successfully into new and loving homes. HSMSC's funding comes exclusively from private donations.

The Humane Society will host the 2015 Paw Prints Party on Saturday, Aug. 22, at the Racquet Club of Memphis.

Paw Prints Party, HSMSC's largest annual fundraiser, will offer guests a seated dinner, open bar, live auction, silent auction, a wine pull, dancing, and live music from "Front & Beale." Guests will also meet dogs who were adopted from the Humane Society and are now in loving homes.

"We receive no government funding to carry out our mission of rescuing injured and abused animals," said Andrew Jacuzzi, HSMSC executive director. "We rely 100 percent on donations from compassionate animal lovers in the community through programs such as our Paw Prints Party."

Katie Pemberton, with the Humane Society discussed the event.

August 16, 2015

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August 30, 2015

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September 6, 2015

Levitt Shell

Built in 1936 and recognized as the site of Elvis Presley's first professional rock-n-roll show, the Levitt Shell is an outdoor performing arts pavilion located in the heart of Midtown, Memphis in the beautiful Overton Park. Every year the Levitt Shell puts on more than 50 free concerts and events, made possible by the generous support of the community and encouraging common ground through the arts.

The Shell's history has special meaning for a town that takes its music seriously. During the 1930s and 1940s, the Shell was the site of the memorable Memphis Open Air Theater (MOAT) orchestra performances, light opera and musicals. In 1947 the Memphis Federation of Musicians launched its Music under the Stars series, free to the public.

Over the years, there have been numerous efforts, some to revitalize the Shell, and some to destroy it.

In the 1960s, the City turned the Shell over to the Memphis Arts Center, Inc., which planned to raze the Shell and build \$2 million theater. But Noel Gilbert, beloved long-time conductor of the Memphis Concert Orchestra, organized a petition, gathering 6,000 signatures to save the Shell.

In 1972, the Shell was almost demolished to make room for a parking garage.

In 1982, the NCCJ (National Conference of Christians and Jews) proposed raising funds for restoration and were able to rename the Shell in honor of Raoul Wallenberg, a Swedish humanitarian and diplomat who bravely and creatively saved the lives of more than 15,000 Jews by issuing them Swedish "protective passes" and building 30 "Swedish houses", on which he hung Swedish flags and declared Swedish territory to provide protection.

In 2005, the Shell partnered with the City of Memphis and the Mortimer & Mimi Levitt Foundation to renovate the Shell and present 50 free concerts every year. It was renamed Levitt Shell at Overton Park and renovation was begun in 2007. It opened again with free music for all on September 4, 2008.

The same year, The Friends of the Levitt Pavilion Memphis, Inc. was formed to spearhead the restoration and ongoing operation of the Shell. Friends of the Levitt Pavilion Memphis, Inc. is a Tennessee not-for-profit corporation (501(c)(3)) responsible for the planning, funding and administration of the Levitt Shell. Anne Pitts, Executive Director of the Shell, talked about the concert series and the 1 big fundraising concert on September 26 with 3 Dog Night.

September 13, 2015

Pink Heals Memphis

The "Guardians of the Ribbon - Pink Heals Tour" is a group of firefighters whose purpose is to raise awareness and money for the fight against cancer for women nationwide. Driving pink fire trucks, dressed in pink turnouts (fire suits), they spread their awareness program that supports all women and their fight against cancer. This is all done on their own personal time. It is the wish of those who started this campaign that all money raised locally for the event be kept here in Memphis and used in this community. In the last two years, from the amazing response of T-shirt sales, they have donated a combined \$45,000 to charity. Additionally, the Pink Heals Tour is also selling their own items, on the days of their events. That money is only used for funding their travels. Pink Heals Memphis will join other chapters and caravan from Bumpus Harley Davidson on Whitten to Beale Street to see the pink fire trucks. Todd Conklin, President of Pink Heals Memphis discussed the organization and the event.

Memphis Public Library Teen Learning Lab

The Memphis Public Library & Information Center (MPLIC) is committed to satisfying the customer's need to know. With 18 Library locations throughout the Greater Memphis area, MPLIC offers an array of programs, services, and resources for citizens and visitors to enjoy.

The Memphis Library Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, established to enhance the Memphis Public Library through private support. Since its inception, the Foundation has raised nearly \$30M for the important work of the Memphis Public Library & Information Center.

Memphis teens will have a free place to hang out and geek out – unlike any other in the country – starting Wednesday, September 16, 2015 at the Central Library. CLOUD901 is an 8,300square-foot creative production space for teens ages 13 – 18 offering state-of-the-art equipment and programs to develop twenty-first century skills such as collaboration, innovation, creativity, problem solving, and critical thinking.

The lab will house a sound mixing lab and isolation booths, video production lab, Brainstorming Center, Homework Central, technology gallery, Play Café and lounge, lockers, a tool checkout desk, an art studio, projection screen, Dream Catcher, High Tech Treehouse, performance stage, creation stations, gaming zone, Makers' Space, Dream Store, Collaboration Zone, and a loft. CLOUD901 will offer teen library cardholders free access to audio and video equipment, in addition to 3-D printers, X-Boxes, PlayStation 4s, MacBook Pros and Aiors, monitors, keyboards, microphones, headsets, and more. Library Director Keenon McCloy and Foundation Director Diane Jalfon talked about the lab and the upcoming ribbon-cutting.

September 20, 2015

Mid South Spay and Neuter

Mid South Spay and neuter is a non-profit clinic with a mission to reduce pet overpopulation by providing affordable spay and neuter surgeries to pet owners in the Memphis area. Their vision is to see Memphis become the leader in animal welfare and the ideal pet-friendly community where euthanasia is not necessary because there is a loving and responsible home for every pet. Since 2005, MSNS has helped more than 35,000 animals receive affordable spay and neuter surgery, which has reduced the number of puppies and kittens born in the Mid-South by the millions!

Each year, they alter around 4,000 dogs and cats, but with more than 8,000 animals euthanized at local shelters last year.

One of their main goals is to remove the financial burden of spay/neuter so that all pet owners can make the decision to have their pet fixed. Their largest fundraiser of the year is the Spaytacular party / auction, and Executive Director Alexis Amorose discussed the organization and event.

September 27, 215

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GUESTS ON DRAKE IN THE MORNING 3rd QUARTER 2015

June 30, Terry Roland, Shelby County Commissioner, talked about local issues explaining his decision to vote against the budget in last week's Commission meeting.

Wednesdays except for July 8, Shea Flinn, SVP of the Chairman's Circle of the Memphis Area Chamber of Commerce was on Drake in the Morning for his weekly 20 minute segment discussing local issues pertinent to our community such as mayoral candidates, the city's fight against blight, PILOTS, the EDGE Board, MPD pensions and body cams, CLERB, Shelby County Schools, problems with MATA, allegations against Robert Lipscomb, and the difference in city budgets.

July 29, Arkansas State Senator Keith Ingram discussed his fight against TDOT's plan for I-55 bridge closure at Crump for construction. "There was a sister project on 40-240 in 2009 but they didn't close a bridge. We feel like TDOT didn't follow procedure. I've been at TDOT meetings for 2 years. They had 2 options: Do it over a 6-year period compared to a 3-year period. TDOT did a study in 2006 that showed the loss of millions of dollars per week. They have postponed the project for a year and will do a study challenging the contractors how to best proceed. "The bridge closure was never in the plan until recently, and we had over 3000 people sign this petition. Travel lanes are graded from A to F. This bridge is now a C. There was a proposal to build an A flyover at \$60 million to connect to an F bridge. The last 3 years we have been in attainment, a term which refers to emissions. This would put us in non-attainment. The thing we need to concentrate on is a 3rd bridge. Arkansas Governor Hutchinson backs this as well. It's a bridge of national strategic importance; I do have hope that TDOT understands the gravity of this. I think this economic impact study will happen and now they're talking about making it a 6 year project with partial lane closures. People can help by signing the petition. I do think everybody wants an interchange added, just not a total closure."

August 3, Bill Gibbons, Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security, discussed the new handgun carry permits for military members, Saturday's killing of an MPD officer and recent killings at a Chattanooga military base. He travels to State Troopers' and law enforcement officers' headquarters to thank them for their service and encourages people to do the same. Regarding Chattanooga, his Department through the handgun permit system, has given priority to applications from the active military. Active permits have doubled. In other news, service at the DMV has improved. DUI and seat belt laws and distracted driving laws are helping combat roadway fatalities. The FBI is still investigating in Chattanooga, and Homeland Security is trying to reduce these incidents with active shooter training.

August 17, Kevin Kane, President and CEO of the Memphis Convention and visitors Bureau talked about downtown development including the attention that the 40 year-old convention center needs. He described the \$55 million upgrade that he's proposing along with a phase 2 in the coming years. "Ellis Auditorium was replaced by The Cannon Center. Hospitality revenue streams would pay for the development and supports over 35,000 jobs in the community, among other things. Bass Pro stores are destinations and ours is one 'on steroids'." On the Pinch District growth, "We've got more hotel interest than ever before. This year we'll sell over 5 million tickets to our attractions; there's a lot of buzz about the Mid-South." He listed the people who are

involved in trying to get more airlines to Memphis; the problem is there's not a lot of aircraft. He discussed the Delta-Northwest merger casualties. "We still have the same number of people flying in and out now as we did when we had 300 flights a day." On the Fairgrounds, "We're already a great player in amateur sports, and it's big business. We DO need a major sportsplex with several basketball courts as now we have to use the convention center. Memphis is a city on the move; quietly we're building onto things in the next few years. I think we'll build hotels, expand the convention center and more. We're now an eco-tourism destination with Shelby Farms, etc." He also touched on his hopes and plans for Mud Island.

August 21, Shelby County District Attorney Amy Weirich had a general update including the TBI report on the fatal shooting of Darius Stewart being handed over to her to review meaning reading every page, picking over the evidence with a fine-toothed comb, etc. As with many cases, there has to be an ADA to warrant criminal charges. On truancy, she and Supt Hopson and others are again taking measures trying to control it. "There are some valid reasons that kids miss, but we'll deal with the parents who don't get their kids in school on time." Hopson made it easy for SCS students to get registered for school online. "You're breaking the law as a parent if your child misses more than 5 days." She noted that Bill Gibbons' program, Operation Safe Community, put together Safe Commission and part 2 which targets gang crime is currently active. Part 3 will concentrate on yet another problem in this city. "Crime numbers are down, but it's hard for people to believe that when the media only reports the bad news. Other cities' comparisons are different, but in OUR numbers, we compare ourselves to ourselves. The relationship with law enforcement has improved; it's an initiative Director Armstrong has implemented." In other news, she has been working on the Governor's Task Force to use TN's dollars to best impact safety, namely not using prison space for an addicts and instead using it for rapists and murderers and getting the addicts somewhere to get help.

September 15, Shelby County Commissioner Terry Roland from the county commission was just elected chairman just after Basar had the vote for 1 day; he gave his opinion of what happened that day. "This is a great commission, and the only though time we've had stems from the mayor's budget." He talked about wanting to come up with different streams of revenue, helping the poor and controlling taxes. He explained his new role saying he sets the agenda, etc. "We have a weak mayor and a strong county government. If you have a surplus and the mayor won't agree to a 4 cent tax decrease, there's something wrong. He says he'll take his new role as the 13 commissioners being his bosses and notes that he'd like to try to decrease property taxes and decrease crime. He noted that he fought the idea of MCS surrendering their charter and also that he's not a fan of suing people. He does agree, however, with SCS suing the state for improper funding noting that it's not just happening in Shelby County. "The good thing is that if the state funds the schools totally, we could go down on property taxes." Mayor Luttrell hasn't given him a reason not to lower property taxes, but his hopes are for good things for this county. On the city mayor's race, "These gentlemen are friends of mine, but I don't see it's going to change much because you have 3 who have been there (in political roles) and nothing has changed yet. We've got to do more to bring our people together and stop having turf battles. "At the end of the day, my decision is made based on what's good for the county," He added that David Reeves being put over education has made things very smooth.