



# MONTEAGLE SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

· A CHAUTAUQUA EST. 1882 ·

PO Box 307  
Monteagle, TN  
931-924-2286

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## From The President

### March Comes in Like a Lion.....

Earlier this spring, I was admiring the beautiful buttercups next to Juniata Creek. The temperature was a perfect 70 degrees, the sun was shining, and it felt like spring had finally arrived. Later that same day, a dark storm came racing in, and high winds took down a huge oak tree and part of the first bridge. Across the Assembly, another tree fell on the gallery bridge, and a day or two after that, another storm rolled in and took down the entire Monteagle Assembly arch at the front gate.

Fortunately, the Monteagle fire department was quick on the scene, all was secured, and Scott and the property committee are now working on estimates and repairs! The next week, the temperatures dropped below freezing, reminding us all that you

truly can't predict the weather. Spring in Tennessee is like that...we get lulled into thinking (or rather hoping) that because the trees and flowers are starting to bloom, winter is really on its way out. Betsy Peebles is quick to remind anyone who thinks spring is here that it has snowed more than once on her birthday in April!

While it may be too early to plant flowers and count on no more cold weather, Scott, the office staff and crew, along with all of the committees are hard at work preparing the Assembly for the 141st season no matter what weather comes! THAT we can all count on!

*Happy Spring!*  
*Amanda Moody*

## IN THIS ISSUE

From the President	1
From the courts	1
Platform Preview	2
ARC Deadlines	2
Quick Bites	2
Easter Service	3
Hummingbird Room	3
Around the Grounds	3
MSSA Mission	3
Dining Hall Update	4
Plastic Eggs Needed	4
Housing/leaseholds	4
Safety First	4
Contact Information	4
Prayers	5,6

## From the Courts

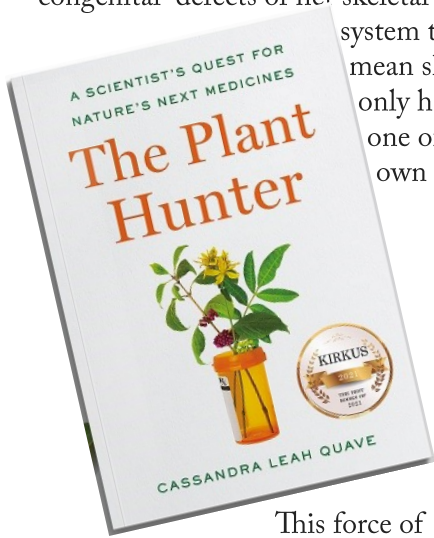
Just a reminder as you prep for summer tennis: Hamza Khan, a Sewanee alumnus and tennis team captain member and now the Women's Tennis Coach, will be helping Felix at MSSA, especially during the June tennis camps at the University. Felix says he's great at getting people excited about what they're doing, and they are both looking forward to being with their friends at the Assembly. Reach him at 571-278-5132 or femann@sewanee.edu if you need to!



## Platform Preview: Cassandra Quave, Plant Hunter

Conjure up an image of a world-famous medical researcher, botanist, and Emory University professor. And now, meet Cassandra Quave, plant hunter—who is all of those things and so much more. She’s a mom, a podcaster, an explorer, and ethnobotanist ... and she does it all in a body born with multiple congenital defects of her skeletal

system that mean she only has one of her own legs.



This force of nature—pun intended—is giving the keynote talk in the opening week of the 141st Platform season. Quave will talk about her work searching for natural compounds to help fight humankind’s most threatening illnesses. Her lecture is on Thursday, June 15, at 7:45 pm in the Auditorium.

Quave’s web site promises a fascinating and inspiring talk: “Traveling by canoe, ATV, mule, airboat, and on foot, [Quave] has conducted field research in the flooded forests of the remote Amazon, the murky swamps of southern Florida, the rolling hills of central Italy, isolated mountaintops in Albania and Kosovo, and volcanic isles arising out of the Mediterranean—all in search of natural compounds, long-known to Traditional healers, that could help save us all from the looming crisis of untreatable superbugs.”



Want a sneak peak of her talk? Pick up her highly reviewed book, *The Plant Hunter: A Scientist’s Quest for Nature’s Next Medicines*, available widely in paperback. Find out more about our speaker at her website , [cassandraquave.com](http://cassandraquave.com).

Liz,  
Platform Assistant

## QUICK BITES

**ALL** golf carts must be registered or re-registered every year. Only licensed drivers are legally allowed to drive carts.

**Lawn trimmings** are collected on Wednesdays.

**Dogs** must be registered, including proof of rabies vaccination. Pick up after your pets.

**The possession or use of alcohol or controlled substances** on public grounds, in public places, or at public functions on the Assembly grounds is prohibited and subjects the offender to disciplinary action by the Board of Trustees.

**Safety first!** Call (931) 607-8615 when the main office is closed for any security questions or concerns.



## ARC PROJECT SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Planning a renovation project? The Architectural Review Committee will accept projects for review and recommendation to the Board of Trust for approval four times per year. Questions about possible projects, the process, and necessary requirements should be referred to the General Manager. Projects submitted by the following dates will be reviewed and presented at the board meeting following the submission.

June 10      July 31      September 30      January 15      February 28

The ARC is available throughout the year to advise members on their project planning prior to submission of a request. Not sure if you need ARC approval? Check with the General Manager first.

## Around the Grounds



**April 22- Elrod/Dunn  
Wedding  
Chapel**  
Several cottages rented

**April 28/29-  
Bowman/Metzger  
Wedding**

Harton Hall/Gymnasium/Mall  
Chapel/ Auditorium/Winfield/  
Writer's Grove  
23+ cottages rented/loaned

**May 5- Bittenbender/Decker**  
Harton Hall

**May 6-Memorial  
Service and Reception for  
Ruffner Murray**  
Warren Chapel, Harton Hall

**May 8-15- University of the South  
Graduation**  
60 cottages rented

**May 27- Clarke/Gentry Wedding**  
Chapel, Auditorium  
Several cottages rented

**May 19/20- Rixey/Siegrist  
Wedding**  
Harton Hall, Chapel, Auditorium  
20+ cottages rented/loaned

**June 2-3- McCallum/Quinlen  
Wedding**  
Gymnasium, Chapel, Auditorium  
18+ cottages rented/loaned

## Hummingbird Room

Spring is upon us and so is spring cleaning. As you start clearing out your playrooms, basements, and attics, please consider donating any new or gently used items to our sweet Hummingbird Room. It's looking a bit tired and could use the addition of key items. All items can be dropped off in the Office breezeway.

Please note the things listed below are only suggestions. We would love anything that you can give. If you want to purchase an item, just have it sent to the office or again drop it off. Please contact Susan if you have any questions or would like to help getting our room up and running!

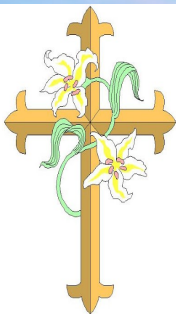
Here is some of what we are looking for:

Kitchen Set  
Play Food  
Play Pots and Pans

Play Dishes  
Play Rug with Roads  
House Keeping Items  
Anything Little Tikes  
Dressup Clothing and Costumes  
Creative Playthings  
Wooden Puzzles  
Cars  
Trucks  
Parking Garage  
Sturdy Dollhouse  
Doll House Items  
Puppets and Puppet Show  
Play Vet Items  
Dr. Kit  
Dolls  
Play Garage Items  
Easel  
Anything that your child loved but is not using.

*Many Thanks,  
Susan Acker*

[oh Tobesusan@aol.com](mailto:oh Tobesusan@aol.com)



## April 9 - Easter Service

Please join the Assembly community for an Easter service, Sunday April 9 at 10 a.m. in Warren Chapel. The Reverend Polk Van Zandt will celebrate Holy Eucharist. All are welcome!

The Montegale Sunday School Assembly was organized by Charter issued by the State of Tennessee on October 4, 1882 for the purpose of: "... the advancement of science, literary attainment, Sunday School interests, and the promotion of the broadest popular culture in the interest of Christianity without regard to sect or denomination."

The Mission of the Montegale Sunday School Assembly is to be a welcoming community of Christian faith where people gather to engage in spiritual growth and renewal, lifelong inquiry and learning, recreational and cultural enrichment, while being good stewards of our natural resources and our Assembly heritage.

## From the Executive Director

### Dining Hall Update

Last fall we announced that Chef Rick Wright would take over our dining services. Recently, Rick let me know that he was withdrawing due to personal reasons.

I am happy to announce that La Bella Pearls will be managing the Harton Hall dining program this summer. Although a different fare, we can expect the same quality dining experience we enjoy at the restaurant. Chefs Tom and Cynthia are excited about this opportunity and bringing some new offerings to Harton Hall. They will also be available for private catering during the season.

*Bon Appetit,  
Scott Parrish*

### Easter Eggs

We are in need of plastic Easter Eggs for our Insect Egg Hunt this summer. Please consider recycling your eggs to this fun activity for our Hummingbirds. Eggs can be dropped off in the Office breezeway with "attention Susan" or "for Hummingbirds" on it.



### Housing Questions? Ask Rhonda!

Interested in possibly being in the rental program? Has your cottage rented to your satisfaction? Do you want to offer your cottage for 3-night rentals or discuss rates?

Contact Rhonda to discuss options or concerns, 931-924-9000

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**Platform Superintendent** – Rebecca Nelson  
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**Office Manager** – Becky Hammond  
becky.hammond@mssa1882.org

**Facility Superintendent** – Rick Duncan  
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### LEASEHOLDS AVAILABLE



#23 Edgeworth Inn  
\$1,675,000

To arrange a tour or for  
more information contact:  
W. Scott Parrish,  
Executive Director  
scott.parrish@mssa1882.org  
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## SAFETY FIRST

The MSSA security team is at your service. If you have any emergency --medical or otherwise-- call 911, but our seasoned team is here to help for non-emergency situations. If you have a safety issue or see suspicious activity anywhere on the grounds or at the Point, don't hesitate to call (931) 607-8615 after 5 pm or call the office during business hours. There are no silly concerns--it's better to call and quell your fears than to let something go because you are afraid of a false alarm.

Consider putting the security number by your home phone and/or plugging it into your cell phones.

Kids got cell phones? Plug the security number in those too.

Together we'll keep MSSA the safe haven it is!



## In Our Prayers



**Robert “Bob” Bell Murfree** of Murfreesboro, Tenn., passed away unexpectedly, surrounded by his family, on Friday, March 3, his 75th birthday. He was born in Rutherford County, Tenn., to the late Dr. Matthias Brickell Murfree, Jr., and Mary Kathryn Bell Murfree.

Bob is survived by his loving wife of 50 years, Elizabeth “Betsy” Phillips Murfree; his children: Dr. Robert Brickell Murfree and his wife Nikki Lowe Murfree, Dr. John Phillips Murfree, and Virginia “Gina” Murfree DeJean and her husband Grant Newman DeJean; his grandchildren: Samuel Hardy Murfree, Hugh Hardy Murfree, William Murfree DeJean, Elizabeth Kirtley DeJean, and James Brickell Murfree DeJean; and beloved nephews Matthias Brickell “Bricke” Murfree IV and Paul Davis Murfree. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his older brother, Matthias Brickell Murfree, III.

Descended from many of the oldest families of Rutherford County, Bob was a 1966 graduate of Central High School and earned his bachelor’s degree from the University of the South at Sewanee in 1970. He was a graduate of the School of Banking of the South at Louisiana State University, the Tennessee Banking School at Vanderbilt University, and the Commercial Lending School at the University of Oklahoma. He served in the Tennessee National Guard from 1970-1976, where he was staff sergeant. Bob started his banking career in 1972, going on to found First City Bank in 1985, where he served as President and CEO until the bank was acquired in 1996. He then assumed the City President position of First Tennessee and later was the City President of

AmSouth Bank. Murfree retired in 2004 after 32 years of Banking.

Bob served his community in many roles, including the Board of Trustees of the University of the South, the St. Thomas Rutherford Foundation (formerly the MTMC Foundation), President of the Oaklands Mansion Board of Trustees, 1987 graduate of Leadership Rutherford, and founding member of the Old Man’s Basketball League and the MTSU’s 6th Man Club. Bob was passionate about the volunteer work he did for the Journey Home, First United Methodist Church disaster relief team and mission trips and most recently for Ascension St. Thomas Hospital. He was a member of the Silver Circle of Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity and the Society of the Cincinnati, and he was an ASTR Foundation Rutherford Society Lifetime Member.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Ascension Saint Thomas Rutherford Foundation earmarked for the Robert Bell Murfree Memorial Nursing Scholarship Fund or to the Benevolence Fund at First United Methodist Church.

**Walter Brice Burbank**, husband of Christie Kizer Burbank, age 53, of Lookout Mountain, Tennessee, beloved husband, father, son, brother, and loyal friend, died unexpectedly on February 24.

Walter Brice Burbank “Brice”, born on May 23, 1969 in Brooklyn, New York to Camilla and Terry Burbank. He attended McCallie School (C’87). He received both an economics degree and a master’s degree in elementary education from the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga. A life-long Episcopalian and active member of the Church of the Good Shepherd,

he served faithfully, participating in Happening, Cursillo, and Education for Ministry, serving on the Vestry, teaching Godly Play, and devoting himself to the children’s ministry. Brice is survived by his devoted wife of 17 years, Christian Kizer Burbank (Christie), his children Beatrix Dudley Burbank (Bea, 13) and Walter Kizer Burbank (Kizer, 8), his loving parents, Terry and Camilla Burbank, his brother Berkeley Carroll Burbank (Ginny), and his sister, Laura Burbank Epperson (Chris).

He is preceded in death by his brother, McDaniel Swift Burbank, and his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Whelan Burbank, and Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Brice. There is no doubt his most fulfilling and favorite role was that of proud and loving father to Bea and Kizer. He was Bea’s biggest fan - experiencing every play and musical performance with great pride and joy. He was Kizer’s best friend - delighting in countless hours of games, Minecraft, Legos, RC cars, Nerf guns, and Hot Wheels with his favorite little guy.

Brice was a passionate volunteer, giver of his time, and a helper to others. He was Christie’s biggest cheerleader, encourager, and supporter. He had a life-long love of NASCAR and Jimmy Buffett. He enjoyed cycling, spending time with friends and family, and tinkering with his car.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to The Church of the Good Shepherd in Lookout Mountain, TN

*(continued on page 6)*

## Prayers

continued from page 5

([www.gslookout.org](http://www.gslookout.org)), or to Chambliss Center for Children ([www.chamblisscenter.org](http://www.chamblisscenter.org)) I Chattanooga, or to a nonprofit of your choice.

**Julia Hill Brownlow Pulliam**, a long-time resident of Knoxville, Tenn., died March 17, in Atlanta, where, upon being widowed, she moved to be near her daughter, Mary. She was 96. Julia was born in Columbia, Tenn., on January 13, 1927, to Girard Polk Brownlow and Mary de Merville Hill Brownlow.

She attended the Columbia public schools before enrolling at the Mary Institute, a college preparatory school in St. Louis, Mo. Upon graduation, Julia continued her education at Holton Arms School in Washington, DC, and then at Vanderbilt University, where she especially enjoyed her membership in the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

Following college, Julia married Jere Dorminy, of Winter Haven, Florida. Two daughters, Mary and Julie, were born to the marriage but tragically Julie died at a young age from severe complications suffered during child-birth. Losing Julie left a hole in Julia's heart that never fully healed. Julia's life took a decidedly happy turn when, single again and aided by a matchmaker friend in Columbia, she met Walter Pulliam who was to become the love of her life. They were married until his death at age 101, in 2014, affording the two of them over four decades of shared love, mutual respect and a lot of fun.

Among their favorite interests was travel and especially enjoyed seeing markedly different countries and cultures, so Russia, China, India,

Japan and more became "must see" destinations. But for Julia, one destination towered above all others. Julia spent parts or all of every summer of her life in Monteagle. Her home there was "the Alamo", which her family had acquired in 1922, five years before her birth. In her later years, it was a point of special joy to watch her great grandchildren become the sixth generation in her family to discover the magic of Monteagle. Fittingly, the last words she ever spoke were "Am I in Monteagle?" After that, she slept, until her end.

Julia had many talents, one being her gift for entertaining. She was also an exceptional flower arranger and took special delight in the summer in picking Monteagle wild flowers in the morning and gracing the dinner table with a colorful creation. Yet another passion of hers was bridge, which she played often and well. More important, Julia was a doer and a leader. Among her noteworthy activities was serving as the Town Committee Chair of the Knoxville Colonial Dames of America. She served on the Board of Blount Mansion in Knoxville and was active in the First Presbyterian Church in Knoxville. She volunteered in numerous other Knoxville undertakings and organizations. In Columbia, Julia worked tirelessly, including board service, 3 on behalf of James K. Polk Memorial Association.

She is survived by her daughter, Mary Doffermyre (Everette), her granddaughter and namesake, Julia Brownlow Doffermyre Green (Eli), of Atlanta; her grandson, William (Will) Lassiter Doffermyre (Bessie), of Dallas TX; her grandson, Everette Randolph (Randolph) Doffermyre (Kathleen), of Jackson, WY; and her nephew, Girard Polk Brownlow, III (Jane) of Palm Beach, FL. She is also survived by eight great grandchildren,

all of whom share her love for Monteagle. She was predeceased by her husband, Walter Tillman Pulliam, her daughter, Julia (Julie) Hill Dorminy, and her brother, Girard Polk Brownlow, Jr.

A memorial service celebrating Julia's life will be held on June 30, 2023 at 4 PM in Warren Chapel. Contributions in memory of Julia may be made to the Monteagle Assembly or to any charity the donor chooses.

### Ruffner Murray Memorial

A memorial service will be held for Ruffner Murray on Saturday May 6, 2023 at 1:30 PM in Warren Chapel. A reception will follow in Harton Hall.

