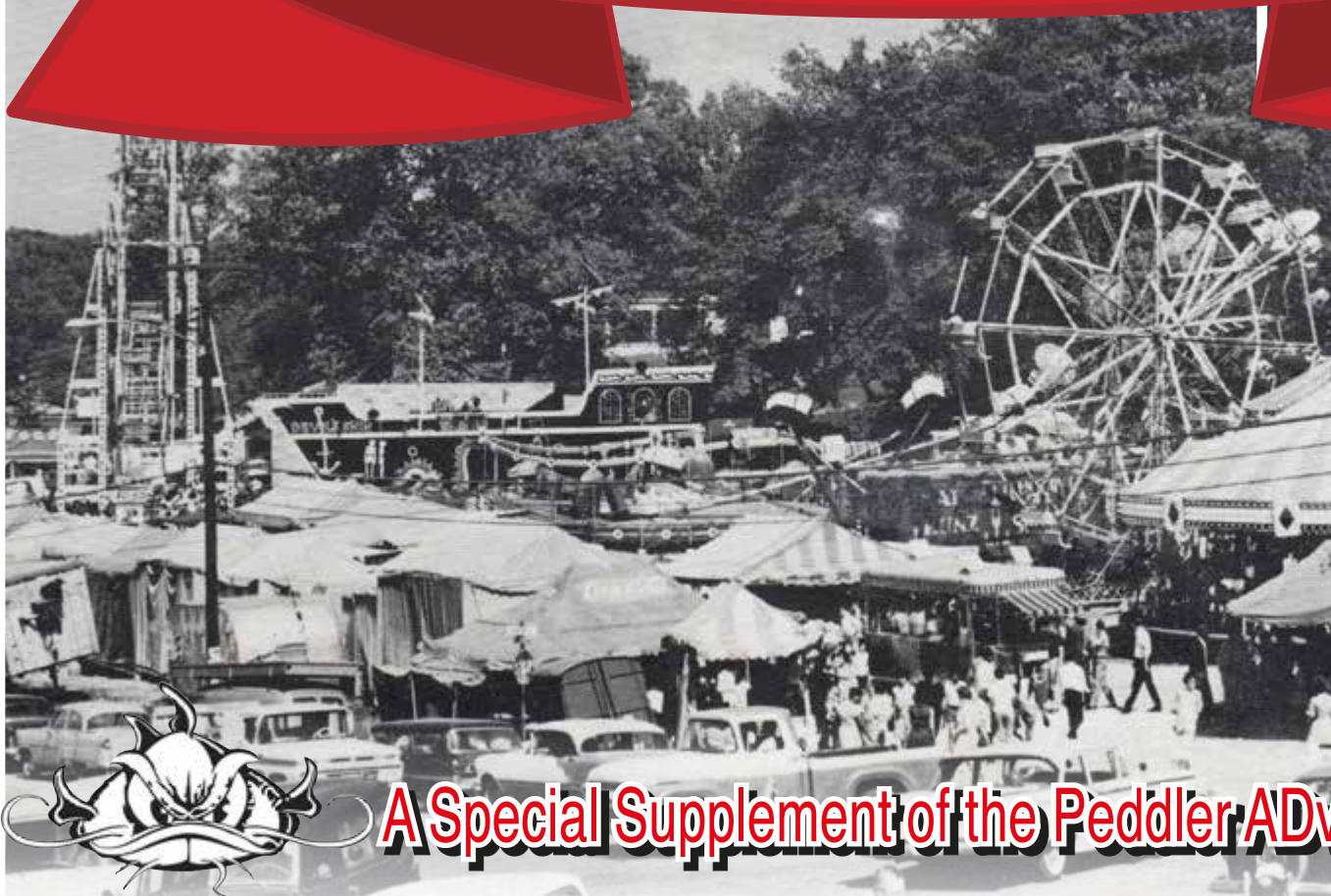




# Memories



A Special Supplement of the Peddler ADvantage



# Table of Contents

Everyone around these parts knows that the last full week of April is Fish Fry Week. The World's Biggest Fish Fry has been held in Paris, Tennessee for the last 67 years, come rain or come shine. Anyone who has spent any time at the Fish Fry can tell you this event has seen plenty of both. Seems like there is only one thing that can stop the Henry County Jaycees from holding this event – and that is the concern for public safety.

Wisely, the World's Biggest Fish Fry was canceled this year due to social distancing and prevention of the spread of the Corona Virus. Our hometown event was sorely missed. If there was any good to come out of canceling the Fish Fry it was to teach us how important it is to our community. You can't miss the chaos, hard work, fun times and good food until it's not there.

The staff at the Peddler Advantage want to express to the Henry County Jaycees and the community that we understand the impact this organization and event has on our lives. We are taking a look back and remembering the years gone by as we look forward to many more years ahead.

To the coordinators of the World's Biggest Fish Fry, past, present and future we thank you for your dedication to the signature event that put Paris, Tennessee on the map of the world.



**southern marsh** COLLECTION **FISH HIPPIE** **MOUNTAIN KHAKIS**  
**ONWARD RESERVE** **MIZZEN+MAIN** **GRETCHEN SCOTT**  
*free people* **THML**  
**LYSSE TRIBAL**  
**THE Toggery**  
AT  
**Bo & Co.**  
BOUTIQUE  
112 W. WASHINGTON ST. • PARIS, TN  
731-642-5013

**3** Interesting facts  
about the history of  
the World's Biggest  
Fish Fry

**5** Fish Fry memories  
forever stay with us

**6** That's why they call it  
the World's Biggest  
Fish Fry

**8** A Walk Down Fish Fry  
Memory Lane

**10** Our Hostess  
Princess - may she  
ever reign

**12** A look back at Fish  
Fry floats over the  
years

**14** Fish Fry Virtual  
Photo Parade

**17** The financial  
impact of the  
World's Biggest  
Fish Fry on our  
community

**18** 1994 is the year of  
the woman

**19** Past Jaycee Board  
of Directors



written by: Jennifer Wheatley

# Interesting facts about the history of the *World's Biggest Fish Fry*

What is now known as the World's Biggest Fish Fry began as Mule Day in 1938, when the local custom was for farmers to bring their mules to town on Mondays. The Paris Post-Intelligencer was the sponsor. The event was later managed by the Chamber of Commerce and was taken over by the Paris-Henry County Jaycees in 1961.

Hoping to brand Paris and Henry County as a recreation des-

tination with a three day fish fry, the first event on April 29, 1954, was not successful. The fish were from Mississippi and the food was handled by a caterer from Memphis. Rethinking their plans, local leaders decided the next year to fry the fish downtown, with the assistance of many community clubs, cooking around 1600 pounds the second year. The number of pounds cooked annually presently exceeds five tons.

Now there is an annual Hostess Princess chosen, but until 1972, there was also a Queen of the Tennessee Valley pageant. Suzanne Banta wore both crowns, serving as Hostess Princess in 1966 and Queen of the Tennessee Valley in 1968. Donna Lynn Cody also held both titles, in 1969 as Hostess Princess and 1970 as Queen of the Tennessee Valley.

The Jaycees added the car-

nival to the Fish Fry festivities and many activities have become staples, such as the rodeo and Small Fry Parade, but others have been dropped over the years. There are street dances and Christian music concerts, but the 1966 World's Biggest Fish Fry included the "Fish Fry A Go Go," an afternoon of music that included bands such as the Ter-mights and the Shaggy Dogs. It was sponsored by Leach's Music and TV. Other



**Suzanne Banta wore both crowns, serving as Hostess Princess in 1966 (pictured left) and Queen of the Tennessee Valley in 1968 (pictured right).**

*Your TV Tower Provider  
for Northwest Tennessee*

Serving the  
Surrounding Area  
for the Last 38 Years!

Tired of a  
Monthly Cable or  
Satellite Bill?  
We Can Help!  
**Call Today!**  
**(731) 642-4077**

**Beasley Antenna  
& Satellite**

3000 E. Wood St., Paris, TN  
www.beasleysatellite.net

Different  
sizes  
available.

Carroll Bank and Trust

**CBT**

*Community Banking, Community Caring*

Dedicated to our customers and communities since 1907

902 Mineral Wells Ave. Paris, TN





**Pictured: The Shaggy Dogs - The 1966 World's Biggest Fish Fry included the "Fish Fry A Go Go," an afternoon of music that included bands such as the Ter-mights and the Shaggy Dogs. It was sponsored by Leach's Music and TV.**

events which have been part of the festivities over the years but did not make it to our current Fish Fry are husband-calling contests, bowling tournaments and beard growing competitions.

The Jaycettes, an all female organization which worked with the Jaycees, reorganized in Paris in 1963, with six members. The group's first project was to assist with the milk bills at John R. Miller school and pay one child's lunch bill each month. The group also took several children on a shopping tour. This event

continues today as the annual Jaycee "Shop with a Cop" each December. Nancy Carpenter was the first female General Manager, in 1994.

The Jaycees teen division was the Order of the teen SPOKES at Grove High School. Members included former Tennessee State Representative Don Ridgeway.

The World's Biggest Fish Fry is now heralded as an extraordinary example

of volunteerism and community activity and some folks just keeping showing up:

Long-serving Paris City Commissioner Gayle Griffith has served as both president of the Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce and General Manager of the World's Biggest Fish Fry, as has Tim Wirgau, Abbotts Print Shop.

Pam Williams, Hostess Princess in 1979, was queen of the

Pre-Teen Court in 1972. Hannah Robison (Pam Williams Robison's daughter) served as Hostess Princess in 2010 and later and Miss Tennessee, where she ranked in the top seven finalists of the Miss America Pageant.

Paris and Henry County are grateful for the efforts of the Paris-Henry County Jaycees and wish them and the World's Biggest Fish Fry many more years of community history.



**Meeting on your schedule, not ours.**

Face-to-face meetings. One-on-one relationships. How did Edward Jones become one of the biggest financial services companies in the country? By not acting like one.

With more than 10,000 offices, including the 4 in Paris.

<b>Brian G. Tusa, CFP®</b> Financial Advisor 101 East Wood St. Paris, TN 38242 731-644-1466	<b>Pete Piskos, AAMS®</b> Financial Advisor 331 Jim Adams Dr. Suite C Paris, TN 38242 731-642-4164	<b>Ashli Scott Newcomb, AAMS®</b> Financial Advisor 1205 East Wood St. Paris, TN 38242 731-642-8424	<b>Matt Spellings</b> Financial Advisor 810 East Wood St. Suite B Paris, TN 38242 731-642-1942
---	---	---	---

**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING  
Member SIPC

# NORTHWEST | TENNESSEE TOURISM

- HUNT
- FISH
- BOAT
- GOLF
- SWIM
- HIKE
- CAMP
- LODGING
- FINE FOOD

We can fulfill  
your entire  
family's vacation  
dreams!

**NORTHWEST TENNESSEE... A GREAT PLACE TO BE!**

## NORTHWEST | TENNESSEE TOURISM

731-593-0171

kentuckylaketourism.com  
reelfootlakeoutdoors.com





Gary and Janice Benton, publishers of the Peddler Advantage and past owners of WMUF radio hold the World's Biggest Fish Fry in such high regard and have many cherished memories.

"Not being a native Parisian, Gary and I can't say we grew up going to Fish Fry," said Janice. "But our daughter, Jessica, who was four when we moved here did grow up with it. We moved to

Paris in March of 1985, when we bought WMUF radio and jumped into Fish Fry with both feet," said Janice. "It has been a part of us ever since."

Janice said she has so many fond

memories that it is hard to remember them all. She mentions being in the parade or just watching the parade was always fun. "Whether we were covering events for the radio station or the Peddler or

just enjoying the events with our daughter and other family members ... the Fish Fry will always be special."

Gary said he remembered Jessica asking him repeatedly if he had enough tickets for her and her best friend to ride all the rides they wanted. "It seemed like I had 500 tickets, and the girls were so excited," he said. Later, when he went looking for the girls he said he found them being hosed off by one of the workers. "I re-

member thinking 'what in the world.'" Jessica quickly informed him that her bestie had thrown up all of the goodies they had enjoyed earlier in the day on their last ride.

Janice said her mother loved to visit during Fish Fry. "Fried catfish was her all time favorite food. She would tell the server 'I want it fried dark and crisp.'" She remembers serving catfish with her mother on the late shift one year. "We were trying to clean tables and this

one cowboy kept going back for more fish. Mom said to him, 'you love fish almost as much as I do!'"

Janice's mom, Angie, is no longer with us and Jessica is now married, an attorney and living in Memphis with her husband and baby, Jack. But Gary and Janice are extremely grateful for their Fish Fry memories. "We have so many good fish fry memories over the years and so many more to make with our grandson, Jack."

## Have you recently **RETIRED** to Paris?

Let the Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce help you settle in and make the best of your retirement. Our charming town offers a variety of ways to get involved with the community.



Call the Chamber for more information at 731-642-3431.

2508 East Wood Street • Paris, TN 38242 • [www.paristnchamber.com](http://www.paristnchamber.com)



**Paris-Henry County**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



*In need of a*




**We can help!**






**VOLUNTEER LENDER\$**

1026 Mineral Wells Ave.  
Paris, TN  
731-642-9100

# INFORMATION IS POWER

DOWNLOAD THE **MYBPU** APP TODAY  
AND STAY CONNECTED TO **YOUR** UTILITY.



-  **PAY YOUR BILL**
-  **REPORT OUTAGES**
-  **VIEW CURRENT OUTAGES**
-  **TRACK YOUR USAGE**
-  **CONTACT US**

Available on the App Store

GET IT ON Google play

**BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

# That's why they call it the WORLD'S BIGGEST FISH FRY

written by: Teresa Jones

The year 2020 will go down in the history of the World's Biggest Fish Fry. Unfortunately, the festivities were cancelled for the first time since it's onset due to the deadly Coronavirus. Anyone who lives in or near Henry County, TN knows to mark their calendar for the last full weekend in April. Most folks in the area consider it a holiday week. The perfect week for family reunions, homecomings, parades, beauty contests, carnival, catfish races and the list goes on. The main attraction though, is the Fish Fry itself. The sounds of crack-

ling kettles, laughter and conversations fill the tent. The smells of fresh cooked catfish and all the fixin's drift out of the fish tent tempting hungry crowds to hurry and get in line. Inside patrons are always met with smiles and kindness. Everyone just seems to enjoy seeing neighbors or old friends. It is a great meeting place for people from all over the country to enjoy just what Henry County, TN is all about. Community. Sadly, this year the tent was silent.

What is known as The World's Biggest Fish Fry actually began as "Mule Day" in 1938. It wasn't until 1953 the name changed to "The Fish Fry" where fish was cooked for the first time at the event. The cooking was done outdoors and people ate at picnic tables under a big tent. The first years about 1,000 pounds of fish were served. In 2019, over 12,000 pounds of catfish fillets were cooked and served to hungry crowds. Of

**Joe & Jerry's**  
**Car Care Center**

**Quality tires for all of your Summer-Time Fun!**

- Personal Vehicles
- ATV •RV's
- Boats & Trailers

**Service Beyond The Sale!**

- Oil Changes
- Tire Rotation & Balance
- \*Overall General Service



1034 Mineral Wells Ave., Paris  
731-642-0143





the 8 original black iron pots used to cook the fish, 7 of the kettles are still being used today. There are 8 fish cooks that rotate cooking only catfish. The Buchanan Masonic Lodge prepares all the hushpuppies. Springville Community Group is in charge of the white beans. The 18 to 24 thousand pounds of vinegar cole slaw is made fresh on site. In 1985 it became tradition the Hostess Princess tosses out the first hushpuppies to signify the official opening of the fish tent.

David "Tater" Hayes began assisting Bobby Cox, former Jaycee Chair-

man, at the fish tent in 1985. David took charge of the fish tent when Bobby fell ill. Hayes now serves as Jaycee chairman of the tent. After Cox's passing in 1994, the fish tent was officially named in his honor. It is now known as "The Bobby Cox Memorial Fish Tent". As an inspiration to all who volunteer, his hat and apron are proudly hung for all to see and remember him. It takes many cooks and volunteers to make the fish tent so successful each year. Hopefully, 2021 will bring better days. The fish tent was missed this year by so many. It really is the highlight of The World's Biggest Fish Fry!



Pictured are David "Tater" Hayes and the late Bobby Cox. The pair started a tradition that Hayes still carries on, the aluminum foil used to cook the catfish and hushpuppies is saved and is added to an ever-growing ball every year at the Fish Fry.

Join us in worship at...

# PARIS First United Methodist Church

*Reverend Joy Weathersbee*  
**UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**  
*Paris FUMC services may be enjoyed via:*

**WHNY Radio • 9:30am**  
97.5 FM • 104.7 FM

**Cable TV Channel 195**  
11am

**Facebook Live • 11am**  
Paris First United Methodist Church Facebook page

**South of Court Square • Paris**  
101 E. Blythe St. • 731-642-4764  
**THERE IS PLENTY OF PARKING!**

**W & A**  
**WHITE & ASSOCIATES INSURANCE**  
**WIMBERLEY AGENCY**  
*— Doing more than you expect —*  
Affiliate of Security Bank

*Providing ALL types of insurance services including:*

**AUTO • HOME**  
**LIFE • HEALTH**  
**BUSINESS • FARM**  
**EARTHQUAKE**

200 W. Washington St. • Paris  
**731-642-5132**  
tommy.wimberley@whiteandassociates.net

**"Our Family Helping Your Family"**  
We can help you with all your real estate needs.

Lake Property • Homes • Farms, Hunting & Recreational Property  
Resorts • Investment Property

**Lake Realty LLC**

1-800-642-1981 (Toll Free)  
731-642-1459 (Fax)

Pam Bygden: 731-336-4034  
Owner | Principal Broker

Randy Stamps: 731-676-0055  
Owner | REALTOR®

Visit our website & MLS listings  
www.lakerealestate.com  
Email: info@lakerealestate.com

**Lake Realty, LLC**  
6471 E. Antioch Road • Buchanan, TN  
**731-642-1399**

**EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY**  
**REALTOR**  
**MLS**

# Cypress Bay

## RESORT

**110 Cypress Resort Loop • Buchanan, TN**  
**(731) 232-8221 • cypressbayresort.com**

**10 Cabins Full Service Marina**

- Ranging from 1-3 bedrooms
- Full kitchen-living room combination
- Microwave
- One bath
- Comfortable beds
- TV/Dish Network
- AC/H units
- Pet Friendly
- Guest Registration
- Fishing License
- Dockage
- Gas
- Ice & Snacks
- Beer/Cold Drinks
- Bait/Tackle

**Plan Now for the Summer!**





written by: Jennifer Wheatley

**TNT PIZZA**



**DELIVERY IN PARIS LANDING AREA**  
**DELIVERY & CARRY OUT, LIMITED DINE-IN • OPEN 11AM**

**2 MEDIUM 2 TOPPINGS**  
**\$15.99**

**731-407-7491**  
**LOCATED IN BUCHANAN, TN.**

What is the mental image that comes to mind when you hear the words “World’s Biggest Fish Fry”? Is it a Hostess Princess tossing the first hush puppy to her daddy to open the fish tent? Is it thousands of people lining the streets to see the Grand Parade? Do you immediately think of the Small Fry parade or the Catfish Races?

Sponsored by the Paris-Henry County Jaycees, the World’s Biggest Fish Fry has evolved from a community festival into something more. Former General Manager Dwayne Baldwin, Walker’s Pre-Owned Vehicles, says “Somewhere along the line, it became a time of homecoming and family reunions.” The Fish Fry is also a source of pride for Paris and Henry County, the kickoff of the festival season in West Tennessee and the unofficial sign that spring has arrived.

Baldwin has the distinction of being both the youngest and oldest General Manager of the event, having served in both 1978 and 2001. When asked if he would sign up to be charge again, he said “I might have to do it from a scooter!” Despite having taken the GM role twice, Baldwin is best known as the chairman of the Grand Parade. He is even rumored to have strange powers over rain. He recalls that in all his years lining up the parade, over three different routes, there has only been on true rain out event. He says “It has rained before and after, but it has only rained out once, when Lamar Alexander was Governor of Tennessee.”

Baldwin’s obvious pride in the event, and its impact on his community, comes through his voice when he talks about the “first boom on a drum” every year and the friendship he developed with former Governor Ned Ray McWherter, who was a tremendous Fish Fry supporter.

Contrasting Dwayne Baldwin’s years of experience, Anna Walla, a customer service representative at Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area, has only been an official member of Jaycees since 2018. She was drawn to the organization because of the opportunity it gave her to contribute to the community and help out. She is a former co-chair of the Kids Fishing Rodeo and says “The kids make it. Sometimes that’s their very first fish!”

Despite being fairly new to the festivities she feels that the local Jaycees chapter are “kind of like family now.”

A family filled with special Fish Fry memories is the Robisons from

*Serving*  
**PARIS & HENRY COUNTY**  
*for*  
**over 30 years!**



**Beverly Neighbors**  
LPL Financial Advisor  
Program Manager  
101 N. Poplar St.  
Paris, TN 38242  
731-641-9371

**Michelle Conroy, AAMS**  
LPL Financial Advisor  
1045 Mineral Wells Ave.  
Paris, TN 38242  
731-641-9417

**LPL Financial** **Commercial Bank AND TRUST COMPANY**  
Established 1877 • Member FDIC

Securities offered through LPL Financial. Member FINRA/SIPC. Insurance products offered through LPL Financial or its licensed affiliates. The investment products sold through LPL Financial are not insured by Commercial Bank & Trust Co. deposits and are not FDIC insured. These products are not obligations of the Commercial Bank & Trust Co. and are not endorsed, recommended or guaranteed by Commercial Bank & Trust Co. or any government agency. The value of the investment may fluctuate, the return on the investment is not guaranteed, and loss of principal is possible.





**Pam Williams Robinson (pictured left) was crowned Hostess Princess in 1979. Hannah Robinson Shellnut (pictured right), Pam's daughter, won the Hostess Princess crown in 2010.**

Buchanan Resort. Mom Pam was the Hostess Princess in 1979. She grew up with a cousin, Janice Thompson King, who had also worn the crown and told her "You need to do that!" Pam Williams entered the pageant and remembers it fondly still. She

says the Jaycees "just scooped me up like a child or a little sister."

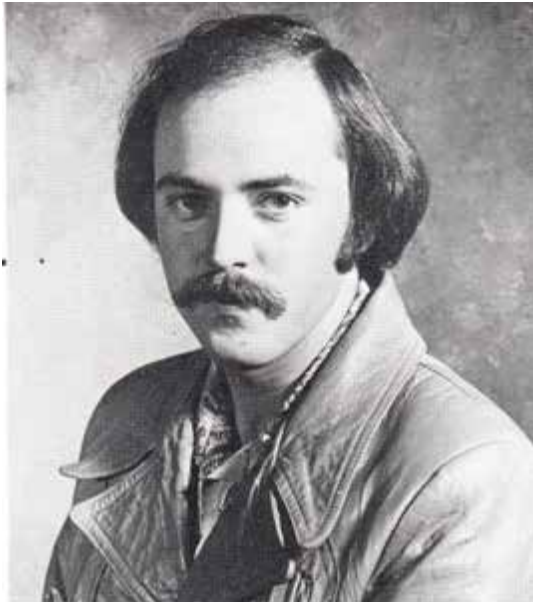
She has especially fond memories of the traditional Hostess Princess photo shoots at local businesses. Pam says she met "people all through the

county that continue to be friends." Pam's daughter, Hannah Robison Shellnut, was crowned Hostess Princess thirty-one years later and recalled the photo shoots as well.

She says that her "sweetest memory" from serving as ambassador of the Fish Fry was the time she got to share with her mother, saying "She got to go with me to the businesses and people remembered her."

Hannah loves that so much of the Fish Fry stays the same from year to year, citing those traditions as one of the hallmarks of the event. One of her favorite photos from her year is "one of me with my dad" tossing the hushpuppy.

Dwayne Baldwin's standout moment was a Fish Fry occurrence that completely represents his years managing the Grand Parade. Baldwin remembers a moment just before releasing the parade. The Budweiser Clydesdales' noses were pressed against his shoulder blades as the crowd looked up to the sky to see a squad of Air Force A-10 Warhog jets fly over the parade. "I kinda got weak-kneed."



**Dwayne Baldwin has the distinction of being both the youngest and oldest General Manager of the event, having served in both 1978 (pictured left) and 2001 (pictured right).**

**NEED A RENTAL CAR?**  
....call Dwayne Baldwin!  
Remember, when you have had an accident we are your insurance specialist.

- We accept what your insurance company pays as total payment for the rental, including sales tax.
- We do not have any add-ons, upcharges, hidden fees, etc.
- Locally owned and operated company that has been renting cars for 25 years.
- Remember, **IT'S YOUR CHOICE**, where you get your rental when you've had an accident.

**WALKER'S**  
1322 East Wood St. • Paris, TN • 731-642-8500  
WE WON'T LEAVE YOU WALKING, ALL RESERVATIONS WILL BE HONORED!

**JUST COMPARE**  
**JG**  
*Say "Yes" to the Desk!*  
401 Memorial Drive • Paris, TN  
(731) 642-4799  
[www.jceducational.com](http://www.jceducational.com)  
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

**EDUCATIONAL & OFFICE SUPPLY**  
  
f



# Proudly supporting the World's Biggest Fish Fry.

Your financial health is about a lot more than insurance. That's why State Farm Bank® simplifies managing your money, with 24/7 online banking at statefarm.com\*. Ask about a deposit account today.  
Call us today.



**Darrin Thompson, Agent**  
310 E Wood Street  
Paris, TN 38242  
Bus: 731-540-4045



**Jane Cozart Reid, Agent**  
1314 East Wood Street  
Paris, TN 38242  
Bus: 731-642-6621

**State Farm Bank®**

State Farm Bank, F.S.B., Bloomington, Illinois ("Bank"), is a Member FDIC and Equal Housing Lender. NMLS ID 138756. The other products offered by affiliate companies of State Farm Bank are not FDIC insured, not a State Farm Bank obligation or guaranteed by State Farm Bank, and may be subject to investment risk, including possible loss of principal invested. The Bank encourages any interested individual(s) to submit an application for any product(s) offered by the Bank. We also encourage you to obtain information regarding the Bank's underwriting standards for each type of credit or service offered by visiting statefarm.com or by contacting the Bank at 877-3-SF-BANK (877-374-2265). If you are deaf, hard of hearing or do not use your voice to communicate, you may contact us via TTY or other relay services.

1706476.3

# Our Hostess Princess may she ever reign

Many young girls in Henry County have grown up dreaming of one day being the Hostess Princess of the World's Biggest Fish Fry. They have envisioned being draped by the beautiful velvety cape, being handed the sparkly scepter and slightly kneeling down as the majestic crown is placed on her head and the crowd cheers her on.

The Hostess Princess and her court have many duties. They are to attend Fish Fry events and welcome as many visitors as they are able. The Hostess Princess has the job of tossing out the first hush puppy on the first night of serving in the fish tents. And the Court represents Paris during visits to the state capital and other festivals and parades.

Being a hostess princess has usually been only one of many achievements that these women have attained. They have grown into and gone on to be loving mothers, devoted homemakers, college graduates, city and state officials, real estate agents, teachers, lawyers, medical professionals and even as representative in the Miss America Pageant as Miss Tennessee.

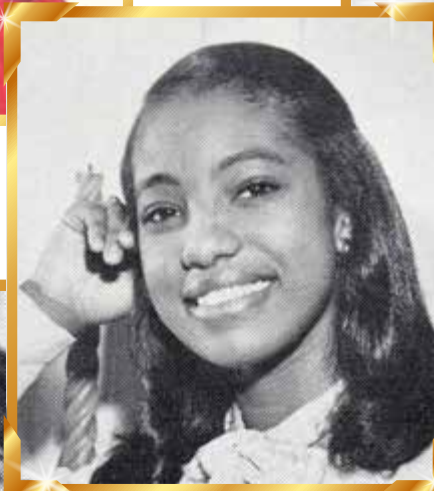
Enjoy this look back as we celebrate our official hostesses of the World's Biggest Fish Fry through the years.



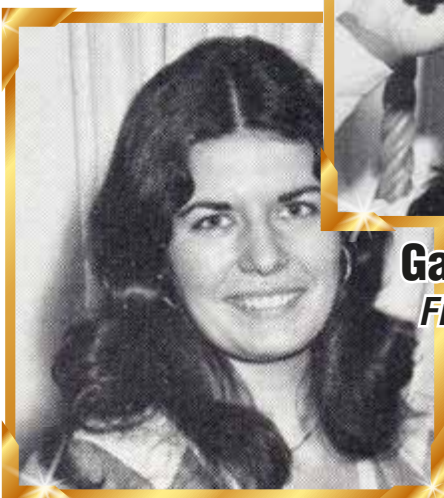
**Suzy Abernathy**  
1965



**Ramay Woody**  
1967



**Gale Hartzfeldt**  
First Maid - 1975



**Jennifer Jones**  
Fourth Maid - 1975



**Gabi Kollmann**  
1982

## LuxCraft™ Furniture

**Made from recycled milk jugs!**

**Come check us out at 54 Lawn & Garden!**

**\* 0% Financing Available \***



**Maintenance Free!**  
**Can be left out all year long!**

- \* 2', 4', & 5' Gliders (Multiple Styles)
- \* Patio Tables & Chairs
- \* Swings
- \* End Tables & More

Residential  
Lifetime  
Limited  
Warranty!



**5030 Hwy. 54**  
**Paris, TN 38242**  
**731-642-5454**  
**www.54lawn.com**





**Sharon Black**  
1983



**Brittany Darling Young**  
2001



**Tiffany Bennett**  
2014



**Katie Rohr**  
1999



**Katelyn Hamlin**  
2012



**Karamaneh Alexander**  
1997



**Amanda Hassell**  
2005



**Emily Raines**  
2020



*Silverwood Cabinetry*

440 Fairgrounds Rd. • Paris, TN

814-312-4765 • [jim@silverwoodcabinetry.com](mailto:jim@silverwoodcabinetry.com)

- All Wood Cabinets
- Soft-close Hardware
- NO Particle Board
- Lifetime Warranty
- Stone, Solid Surface, & Laminate Countertops
- Kitchens, Baths, Bookcases, Built-Ins, Etc.

[www.silverwoodcabinetry.com](http://www.silverwoodcabinetry.com)

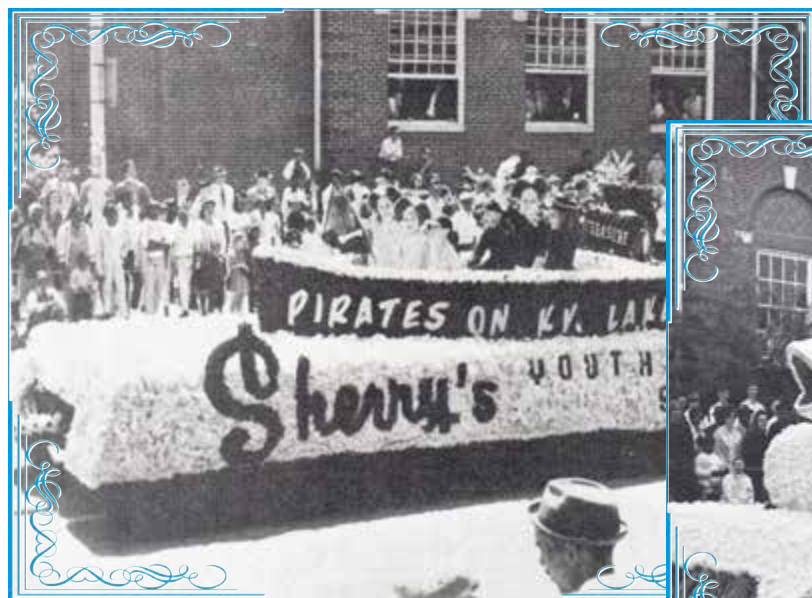


# A look back at Fish Fry floats over the years

Over the years the World's Biggest Fish Fry grew from a two day to a three day to a week long event. In that time, Friday has come to be known as Fish Fry Day. Probably because that is the first day of the week the Fish Fry serves lunch, the carnival is open later and there is this little event called the Grand Parade.

The Grand Parade has grown immensely over the years. Not just in the crowd attendance but also in the number of entries. Marching bands and decorated floats compete in a fierce competition to see who can take home the first place trophy every year. Add to that, marching units, decorated cars, trucks and boats, clowns, horses, and just about anything else you can think of and you have a massive parade.

Some years the crowds attending the Grand Parade have been estimated at more than 50,000 people. That makes the World's Biggest Fish Fry Grand Parade one of the highest attended parades in West Tennessee. Even though the photos are black and white, you can get a feel for the hard work and beauty put into each of these outstanding floats from the past.



**Sherry's Youth Shop**  
*Most Original - 1968*

**Paris Jaycees**  
*1971*



**Paris Quota Club**  
*First Place Club - 1975*

**MOODY REALTY  
COMPANY, INC.**  
*Since 1956*

**410 TYSON AVENUE • PARIS, TN 38242**  
**731-642-5093**

*Our Team Will Get You Moving!*

[www.moodyrealty.com](http://www.moodyrealty.com)

MLS



**Madison County Jaycettes**  
*Most Beautiful - 1979*



**Emerson Electric**  
*Most Original - 1981*





**Hostess Princess & Court  
2007**



**Downtown Paris  
Association  
2017**  
**Little Miss & Court  
2019**



**Challenging 9-Hole Golf Course**  
**Olympic-size Swimming Pool**  
**Full Service Bar & Dining Room**

**Associate Membership**  
For Only  
**\$99 per month**

\* All membership fees will have tax added to cost.

**Social Membership\***  
For as Low as  
**\$35 per month**

\* Social Membership fee includes access to all facilities except for the golf course.

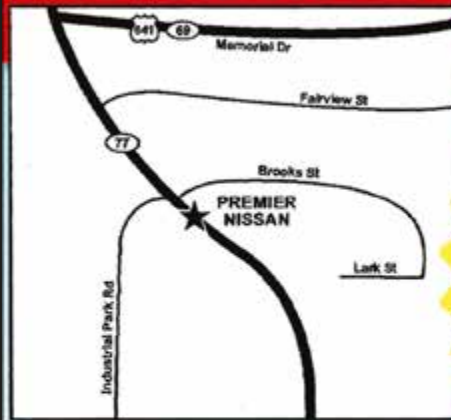
**f 195 Country Club Road • Paris, TN**  
**731-642-0591 • pariscountryclubtn.com**



**Lura Lee's** Of Paris  
Gift Shoppe

112 East Washington St.  
Downtown Paris, TN  
731.407.9400

**NISSAN OF PARIS**  
1490 Mineral Wells Ave.  
Paris, TN (Behind Walmart)  
731-642-0601 • 1-800-264-7726



**MULTI-POINT INSPECTION**  
Receive a complimentary multi-point inspection so you can feel confident about your vehicle's performance, and drive with peace of mind into the season ahead.

**OIL CHANGE WITH GENUINE NISSAN OIL FILTER**

- Add up to 5 quarts of motor oil (per specification)
- Complimentary multi-point inspection (see above)

**\$29.95**

\* Certain restrictions may apply. Excludes diesel models. See offer disclosure for more information. Using Genuine Nissan Oil Filter and multigrade oil up to vehicle specification. Lube as necessary. Genuine Nissan Ester Engine Oil or synthetic may be available at additional cost. No cash value. Offer expires July 30, 2020.

**PARTS & LABOR BONUS**

SPEND	SAVE
\$100.00 - \$199.99	\$15.00
\$200.00 - \$299.99	\$30.00
\$300.00 - \$399.99	\$45.00
\$400.00 - \$499.99	\$60.00
\$500.00 or more	\$75.00

\* Certain restrictions apply. See offer disclosure for more information. Offer only applies to services that include labor. Discount based on individual dealer's pricing guide. Genuine Nissan Ester Engine Oil or synthetic may be available at additional cost. No cash value. Offer expires July 30, 2020.



**Denise Barnhill**  
*Best Overall*



**Will Wheatley**

# FISH FRY PHOTO PARADE

Who says you can't have a fun parade just because of social distancing? Holly Todd, and her mother Patricia, came to Travis McLeese, the executive director of the Chamber of Commerce, with the idea of the virtual parade. They thought it would not only be fun but, also, an excellent way to honor our local hard working Jaycees. The virtual parade is made up of photos sent in by participants of all ages! All of the floats are homemade and truly capture the spirit of the event that we call The World's Biggest Fish Fry!



**IF IT DOESN'T SAY  
BUSH HOG  
IT JUST WON'T CUT IT™**  
www.bushhog.com

**B&G Equipment**  
2816 Hwy. 54  
Paris, TN  
731-642-1242

**BUSH HOG E-STORE**  
**Built BUSH HOG TOUGH!**

**Moon's**  
*Jewelry & Repair*  
"Service with Quality & Experience"

**114 N. Market Street • Paris**  
**731-642-0881**

A close-up image of various gold jewelry items, including rings, pendants, and chains, displayed on a surface.





Joe Douglass

Chloe Jo Vaughn  
Commentator's Choice



Southside Cafe  
& Cody Nance  
Bullriding  
Best Fish Fry Theme



**BUY • SELL • TRADE**

Handguns & Ammunition Available!

Home Defense, Personal Defense, Concealed Carry, & Precision Shooting Supplies for the responsibly armed American citizen!

Cerakoting Options, Gunsmithing, & Gun Maintenance Available!

Member

**JM FIREARMS**

1326 E. Wood St.  
Paris, TN 38242  
731.336.0209  
www.jmfirearms.com  
10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat.  
11 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Fri.



## HOLLEY CREDIT UNION

1107 Mineral Wells Avenue

Paris, TN 38242

731-644-9031

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 8am-4:30pm

Wednesday 9am-4:30pm and Friday 8am-5pm

SERVING OUR MEMBERS SINCE 1952

Visit us on the web: [www.holleycreditunion.org](http://www.holleycreditunion.org)

**NEW CARS – 2.50%**

(up to 72 months financing)

Rates based on credit score • Loan subject to approval

Holley Credit Union has a loan for almost every need with affordable rates and convenient terms. Apply in person, by phone, fax, mail, or download our loan application.

New & Used Auto Loans • Home Equity Loan

1st Mortgage Loans • Vacation/Christmas Loans

New or Used Boats, Motorcycles, or Jetskis

Visa Credit Card (Minimum rate 12% APR)

Kwik-Kash (Pre-approved line of credit)



**No luck catching Supper?**

**Southside Cafe**

**has you covered!**

**3pc & 6 pc fish plates**

**Monday - Saturday**

**6am - 9pm**

**with all the trimmings!**


**Call for reservation to dine-in**

**Curb side service available**

**\* Plate Lunch Special: Monday-Friday \***

**1895 Hwy. 69 South • Paris • 731-407-4694**





**Ridgeway**  
**FUNERAL HOME**  
THREE GENERATIONS OF OUR FAMILY  
SERVING YOUR FAMILY.

Grief Support Group & Funeral Pre-Planning  
24 HR. OBITUARY INFO...731-642-0252  
[www.ridgewayfuneralhome.com](http://www.ridgewayfuneralhome.com)  
201 Dunlap Street • Paris • 731-642-2121

Enjoy the moment...

knowing your local independent agent,  
and the company that stands behind them,  
has your family covered.



**Consolidated Insurance Services**  
64 Commerce Street • Paris, TN 38242  
731-642-5281 • [westan.net](http://westan.net)

LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS

**Auto-Owners**  
INSURANCE

**Mary Lynn  
Summers**

**Mallorie & Ella  
Hutson**  
Stay Well Award



**Patsy Evans,  
Jackie Jones, &  
Robin Murphy**  
Most Original



**FISH FRY**  
**PHOTO PARADE**

Life is Better  
on the Water

Protect Your Boat, Jet Skis, Truck & More with a  
**PORTABLE GARAGE** or  
**CARPORT** from  
**EAGLE BUILDINGS**  
Your Home Storage Specialist

FREE  
Delivery  
within  
50 miles

Payment plans  
available! Small  
down payment!

**EAGLE BUILDING**  
[eaglebuildingsn.com](http://eaglebuildingsn.com)

**NO CREDIT CHECK!**  
Everyone Approved

6 Locations to Serve You!

314 Memorial Dr. Paris, TN 38242 731-644-0090	202 Memorial Dr. Paris, TN 38242 731-641-2800	2166 E. Wood St. Paris, TN 38242 731-407-7389	1409 Hwy 70 W Camden, TN 38320 731-279-4192	586 West Church St. Lexington, TN 38351 731-249-9184	15035 S. First St. Milan, TN 38358 731-613-2166
---	---	---	---	--	---

\* Proudly made in Henry Co.!



# The financial impact of the World's Biggest Fish Fry on our community

written by: Travis McCleese, Director of the Paris/Henry County Chamber of Commerce

The World's Biggest Fish Fry has been a staple in this region for decades, and for the first time in its 67 years, it was canceled mid-year due to Covid-19. Like the Strawberry Festival, The Tennessee River Jam, and the Soybean Festival, The World's Biggest Fish Fry not only created memorable events that entertained patrons and enriched communities, but served as major economic drivers for their communities.

In 2018, Henry County collected 58.6 million in tourism revenue saving local tax payers an estimated \$804 per year on their state and local taxes. That portfolio includes a variety of tourism assets that produce revenue, but arguably, one of most popular events is the Fish Fry.

Guests visit our community from across the country to get a taste of what the week-long celebration provides. With those guests, comes significant revenue for our county. It is easy to assume the obvious recipients of that revenue; hotels, restaurants, gas stations, advertisers etc., but most will overlook the secondary organizations and nonprofits affected.

Take the Downtown Paris Association for example. According to Kathy Ray, Executive Director of the Downtown Paris Association, the selling of fish beads brings their organization over \$1,500 that benefits their mission. Other organizations rely on parking cars, parade day revenue, and other miscellaneous projects that raise money.

It is nearly impossible to get a concrete number on the total financial impact that Fish Fry makes because of its length and the number of industries it affects, but some estimates could show over a \$2,000,000 impact for the community. Of course, weather plays a major role in that number as well.

Looking forward, it is important for us, as a community, to give the Jaycees as much support as we can through man power and sponsorship dollars to help see this event continue to prosper. Those volunteers work tirelessly to produce this event, many of them taking their vacation time to volunteer.

Needless to say, we look forward to the next World's Biggest Fish Fry being bigger and better than ever!



**WESTWOOD**  
*Wines and Liquors*

1220 West Wood Street  
at the "Y" at  
Highways 54 and 69  
Paris, Tennessee  
731-642-7714

Monday-Thursday  
8am-10pm  
Friday-Saturday  
8am-11pm  
Sunday 12pm-6pm

**The Lowest Prices & Largest Selection of Wines & Liquors**  
in Henry and surrounding counties  
including Western Kentucky



**TRANE YOUR SUMMER HOME TO SAVE YOU MONEY!**

**Indoor Comfort**  
Heating & Cooling, LLC

**TRANE**  
COMFORT SPECIALIST

9060 Hwy. 79 N. • Springville, TN • 731-644-2794 • [indoorcomfortonline.com](http://indoorcomfortonline.com)





# 1994

## Is The Year of The Woman

Nancy Carpenter made World's Biggest Fish Fry history when she was elected the first female General Manager in 1994. The word "Superwoman" has been used many times to describe her. She is a mother, grandmother, friend and Jaycee.

She joined the Henry County Jaycees in 1989. In her Jaycee career leading up to being General Manager, Nancy served as the Chapter Management Vice President (1989), Headquarters Secretary (1989-1992), secretary of the Fish Fry Board (1991), coordinator of the Jr. King and Queen Pageant (1989), coordinator of the Hostess Princess Pageant (1990-1993), and

coordinator of the Miss Pre-Teen Pageant (1992).

Nancy's awards and honors include the 1992 Presidential Award of Excellence and she was named The Jaycee of the Year in 1993. Nancy was always known as a devoted Jaycee that contributed immensely to her community.

In the 67 year history of the Fish Fry only six women have served as General Manager. Nancy Carpenter was the first, leading the way for Toni Kaye

Bowden, Cecilia Casey, Andrea Lamb, Lisa Stone and three time General Manager, Loria Plunk.

All General Managers have put forth a tremendous amount of effort coordinating the World's Biggest Fish Fry. It has never been and never will be an easy task to pull together this huge event. It takes a strong leader and lots of volunteer hours to get the job done. All of the men and women of the Jaycees have made Henry County proud.

Paris/Henry County

## Heritage Center

### Cavitt Place

Local Museum & Historical Mansion

*Host your special occasion with us and make a little history of your own at Cavitt Place.*

**731-642-1030**  
614 N. Poplar St.  
Paris, TN 38242

Cavitt Place was built in 1916 by a self made millionaire and philanthropist, O.C. Barton. The home was intelligently built, masterfully crafted and is a treasure to behold and to enjoy for all of West Tennessee. Our distinction is that we are the local museum in the immediate area and we are a mansion, on that is available for your special occasions. We specialize in creating events and programs to help sustain us and for the enrichment and enjoyment of the community. Our mission is to instill in others the love so many hold dearly for this treasured place and what it means to the community of West Tennessee. Our vision is to be a reflection of and to share the rich cultural tapestry of our journey of how we became who we are today. We will have reached our goal when all who cross our threshold experience a sense of homecoming.

*Bring this ad and receive 10% off your event*

## THE HOMESTEAD

Garden Center • Country Market • Gift Shop

### lakegirl® clothing

- Handmade hanging baskets
- Gorgeous ferns
- Heat & drought tolerant flowers
- In-season locally grown produce, meats, cheeses, & more!
- Open 7 days per week, 9am-6pm
- Social Distancing friendly
- Vegetable plants

*We're Growing For You!*

### Unique Gift Shop

All USA-made merchandise - Open Year 'Round!  
6003 East Antioch Road • Springville, TN  
(Just past the 4-Way Grill)

**731-407-4454**

SUPPORT OUR ECONOMY - BUY LOCAL - BUY USA MADE

## QUALITY INN

**PARIS LANDING & KY LAKE**  
*After a day of fun in the sun, relax in an air conditioned room or by the pool side.*

**Electric for Boat Hook-Ups**  
**Hot Breakfast Buffet**  
**Pool • Fitness Room**  
**Whirlpool Suites**

**731-642-2838**  
1510 East Wood Street • Paris, TN 38242

WWW.QUALITYINN.COM/HOTEL-PARIS-TENNESSEE-TN677



## PAST JAYCEE FISH FRY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

YEAR	GENERAL MGR.	ASST. GEN. MGR.	SECRETARY	TREASURER	JAYCEE PRESIDENT
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	Cathey Williams
2013	Andrea Lamb	Patrick Cooper	Stephanie Cooper	Loria Plunk	Brian Ray French
2014	Chris Martin	Patrick Cooper	Cathey 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 / Cathey Williams	Cecilia Casey
2017	Josh Taylor	Lisa Stone	Cecilia Casey	Cathey Williams / Loria Plunk	Jessica Damesworth
2018	Lisa Stone	Cecilia Casey	Jamie Fairbanks	Cathey Williams / Jessica Damesworth	Jessica Damesworth
2019	Cecilia Casey	Loria Plunk	Kelly Biggs Corbitt	Cathey Williams / Jessica Damesworth	Jessica Damesworth
2020	Loria Plunk	Jordan Holland	Kelly Briggs-Corbitt	Jessica Damesworth/Cathey Williams	Patrick Cooper



**Bringing a family together**



When your family loses a loved one, we're here to help. We have helped a lot of families through these difficult times. We understand what you're going through. We have families. We lose loved ones, too.

A family's legacy is love. We're here to help you celebrate it with an appropriate setting and ceremony.

**A FAMILY'S LEGACY is love™**

**McEvoy**  
Funeral Home

507 W. Washington St.  
Paris, TN

**Commercial Bank**  
AND TRUST COMPANY

*Established 1877 • Member FDIC*

East Wood Branch  
920 East Wood St.

Mineral Wells Branch  
1045 Mineral Wells Ave.

Paris Downtown  
101 North Poplar St.

**CBTCNET.COM**  
731.642.3341



**45 Years of being a part of the  
World's Biggest Fish Fry.**

**JOE MAHAN**

JOEMAHANFORD.COM  PARIS, TENNESSEE

211 Memorial Drive  
Paris, TN 38242  
731-642-4711 

Monday-Friday 8am-6pm  
Saturday 8am-5pm

**WWW.JOEMAHANFORD.COM**