



happy haven news

Happy Haven Children's Home is sponsored by churches of Christ.

SUMMER 2026

VOLUME LXIV

No. 2

Save the Date: 61th Anniversary Celebration Banquet & Quilt Auction

Thursday, September 10, 2026 - 6:30 p.m.



Matt Richardson

**Leslie Town Centre
One West First Street
Cookeville, TN 38501**

**Call for sponsorships, reservations,
or to host a table (931-526-2052)
Houston Bynum, Happy Haven Administrator**

Matt Richardson

Matt was born in Cookeville, TN. He attended Freed Hardeman University, graduating with a Bachelor of Business Administration. He has had a career in healthcare administration mainly in Human Resources. He resided in Memphis, TN for 20+ years and moved back to Cookeville in 2020. He has two adult children Cameron and Colby. He enjoys music, cooking and sports. One interesting life event for Matt. He was an extra in the 2005 Film Walk the Line starring Joaquin Phoenix and Reese Witherspoon as prisoner in Folsom Prison.

61 Years (1965-2026)

We hope you will plan to join us at our Celebration Banquet on September 10, 2026, at 6:30 p.m., at the Leslie Town Centre. This event will include Matt Richardson entertaining, Stroud's BBQ catering, our auction of quilts, the opportunity for sponsorships and for hosting tables.

This year Happy Haven celebrates 61 years of service and ministry—over 6 decades! Looking back into the history of the property now known as Happy Haven, previously the property of the County Farm was a home for the homeless whether they were young or old. In 1965, the Willow Avenue church of Christ established and sponsored Happy Haven Children's Home with the assistance and financial support of other churches and individuals. At that time, the property included a 35-room structure with 3 apartments each housing a set of house parents and children. While that old building is no longer standing, Happy Haven now includes three homes (the Abston house, the Richmond Chapel Nevins house, and the Gainesboro house), the Farris office building, the Ogden picnic shelter, a barn and a storage building. Through the years, Happy Haven has served literally hundreds of children in need as well as their families. We have baptized numbers of young people into Christ during their stay here. We continue to encourage the young ladies in residence here, with the continued assistance and financial support of area churches and individuals.

Happy Haven Children's Home is a Christian home that helps children to grow physically, mentally, socially, and spiritually as we share God's love with them. We seek God's blessings in our ministry and are so grateful to all of you who love, support, and pray for our work here.

Hope to see you at our banquet on September 10!! — Houston Bynum

HAPPY HAVEN HOME CONTRIBUTORS

CHURCHES OF CHRIST: Supporting Churches

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Hebron
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Mt. Vernon
Pleasant View
Ridgedale
Shady Grove
West Fayetteville
Wilson Hill

OUT OF STATE

Lequire, OK
S. Keystone, IN
Trion, GA

In loving Memory of Polly Simmons

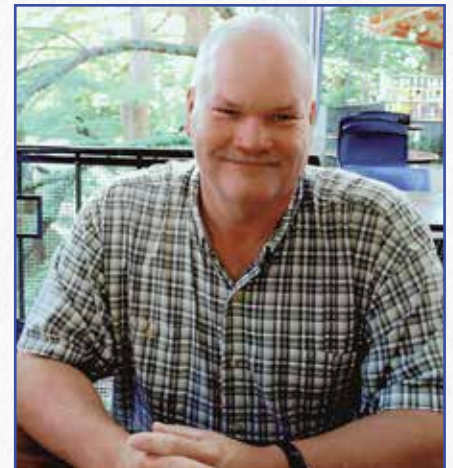
Polly Simmons was a member of the Cumberland Heights Church of Christ in Sparta, TN. She was also an important friend of Happy Haven Children's Home. She was always the person to bring any special contributions of gift cards for the girls from the congregation. She would have a smile on her face and the kindest heart of service to others. In memory of her Christian example and loving heart the Cumberland Heights congregation and friends of Polly donated money for a special memorial in her honor. We chose to purchase two polywood benches and two planters for the Farris Administration Building.



In loving Memory of Mack Wilhite

It is with great sorrow we announce the passing of Mack Alan Willhite on March 24, 2026. Mack faithfully served as a board member at Happy Haven, including the role of treasurer. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and friend who lived a life rooted in faith, family, and hard work.

We extend our sympathy to his wife, Jan, his children, and his grandchildren. Mack will be remembered for his strong faith, his love for his family, and the kindness he showed to everyone who knew him.



CONTRIBUTORS

INDIVIDUALS AND OTHER SOURCES: January 1, 2026 – April 30, 2026

Douglas Adcock
Ola Mae Agee
M/M Larsen Allen
M/M Jimmy Anderson
Lucille Anderson
Peggy Anderson
M/M Phillip D. Anderson
Johnnie Anglin
M/M Paul Atchley
M/M Michael Austin
M/M Jim Barks
M/M Carl Barnes
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George
Leah Johnson
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Elaine McCormick
M/M Larry Melton
M/M Grant Mullins
M/M Michael W. Nance
Nancy Nelson
M/M Roy Parrott Family
Sharon Peck & Family
M/M Joe K. Pedigo
M/M Jack Pigg
Sherry Pippin & Family
M/M Ricky Prater
Mary Pruett
Helen D. Queen
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Ralph, Janice, Pat, Dick, Joyce
& Brenda
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M/M Mark Sells
M/M Ken Shepherd
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M/M Danny Smith
M/M Edward T. Smith
M/M John Smith
Raymond C. Smith
Hilda Sorrell
M/M Paul Sparks
Rachel Stafford & Family
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M/M Errol Stiles
The Sullivan Family

Vauda Sullivan
M/M Ronnie Taylor
M/M Don W. Thurman
Danielle Ullrich
Joseph Underwood
M/M Wallace Walker
M/M Harvey Webb
Dr/M Ty Webb
Katherine Weinstein
Jonathan West
James Whiteaker
M/M Warren Williams
M/M Robert Williams
M/M Donald Winningham, Jr.

ORGANIZATIONS

Dekalb County Cattleman's
Association
Fidelity Charitable Donor Fund
Legacytree Foundation
One Bank
Scott's Bestway
Wellworth Bank

HAPPY HAVEN HOMES in Cookeville, TN, has IMMEDIATE OPENINGS for house parents for girls.

We would consider candidates who are young, middle aged, or older. Happy Haven is accepting applications for **live-in house parents**. We are looking for a **MARRIED COUPLE (MOM & DAD)** or a **SINGLE LADY** to serve as house parents at our residential Christian home to supervise our girls. The mom would be the full-time paid employee with salary & benefits; the dad would be free to work outside the home.

Happy Haven is also accepting applications for **relief house parents**. We are looking for a **SINGLE LADY** or a **MARRIED COUPLE (MOM & DAD)** to supervise our girls on weekends (Friday at 4:00 p.m. till Sunday at 4:00 p.m.). You could live full-time in the house or just come & work on weekends or just one weekend in rotation.

Happy Haven is a licensed, residential Christian home sponsored by the churches of Christ & other interested individuals.

Applications are available at our website to print off and fill out: <http://www.happyhaven.org/documents/EmploymentApplication.pdf>

Mailing address: 2311 Wakefield Drive, Cookeville, TN 38501
Office: 931-526-2052 • Fax: 931-372-8837
Email: happyhaven@frontiernet.net

MEMORIALS

January 1, 2026 – April 30, 2026

BILLY M. AGEE

Ola Mae Agee

TINY AMONETT

M/M Kevin Blankenship
Leoni Church of Christ

CHARLES ANDERSON

Elease Barton

JESSE ANDERSON

Peggy Anderson

GREG ATCHLEY

M/M Paul Atchley

MAXINE AUSTIN

O'Connor Church of Christ
Lansden Church of Christ

JIM BAGGERLY

M/M Paul Atchley

ALLISON LYNN BREWER

M/M Bill Haston

BRENDA BROCK

M/M Michael Austin
O'Connor Church of Christ

BEVERLY CARLEN

M/M Gunnar Bussell
M/M Scott Capps
M/M Bob Garland
M/M Kevin McCaleb

MADINE CARMACK

Smyrna Church of Christ

BILLY WARD CARTER

Carlen Carter
Anna Ruth Holman
Vauda Sullivan

MARK EDWIN CLARK

Mary P. Simmons
East Main St. Church of
Christ

CHRIS COIL

Smyrna Church of Christ
M/M William Gore
Rachel, Liam & Riley
Langford
M/M Larry Melton
M/M Roy Parrott Family
M/M Jack Pigg
M/M Kevin Reeder & Cody

ALICE COLE

Norman Copeland

JEANETTE COLSON

M/M Danny Smith

LEWIS COOMER

Rick and Tony Bowman
Phil Hall
Elaine McCormick
Mary Pruet

WILMA COOMER

M/M Gunnar Bussell
M/M Scott Capps
M/M Bob Garland
M/M Kevin McCaleb

DAVID COPE

Ferrill Gunter

WAYNE CRABTREE

M/M Scott Capps

CHARLOTTE CRIDER

Lansden Church of Christ

RANDY CRONK

M/M Scott Capps

EDNA SUE DAVIS

Patsy Hogan

SEPAL DeBERRY

Rachel Stafford & Family

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M/M Danny Smith

BILL & INEZ DUNN

M/M Phillip D. Anderson

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Smyrna Church of Christ

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M/M Michael Austin

MAC EVANS

M/M Gunnar Bussell
M/M Scott Capps
M/M Bob Garland
M/M Kevin McCaleb

CATHERINE BOULDIN

FOREMAN

M/M Bill Haston

JOHN R. FOX

M/M Jim Lynn

DONNA FRANCIS

M/M Gunnar Bussell
M/M Scott Capps
M/M Bob Garland
M/M Kevin McCaleb

SAM GIBBONS

M/M Scott Capps

BOB GLEAVES

M/M Ken Shepherd

KATHERINE GRAHAM

M/M Michael Austin
Hilda Sorrell

SHARON BILLINGS GREEN

M/M Ronald Scott

TOM GUNTER

Ferrill Gunter

TONY GUNTER

Ferrill Gunter

BILLY HARP

M/M Scott Capps

RITA ANN HIX

M/M Dale Bowman

GENEVA HOGUE

Smyrna Church of Christ

KATELIN JOHNSON

M/M James K. Ragland

IONA KING

Evelyn Brown

JEFF LACY

Anna Ruth Holman
The Sullivan Family

BOBBY LANE

Smyrna Church of Christ

BETTY LEE

M/M Glenn A. Fouch

CAROLYN LESLIE

Phill Hall

HAROLD LOFTIS

Smyrna Church of Christ

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MABLE MADDUX

Baxter Church of Christ

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Mildred Clark, Tim & Karla

ED McCOIN

Phill Hall

ALICE, BENTON & C.J.

MEDLIN

M/M Carl Barnes
M/M Don W. Thurman

DONNA MOORE

M/M Scott Capps

JIMMY MOSS

M/M Bill Haston

MEMORIALS

January 1, 2026 – April 30, 2026

MARVIN NORTON

O'Connor Church of Christ

JIM OWEN

M/M James K. Ragland

ROY PATTON

O'Connor Church of Christ

RUTH PHIFER

M/M Doyle Crawford
O'Connor Church of Christ

JIM PIERCE

Evelyn Brown

MAMIE POINDEXTER

M/M Jimmy Anderson
M/M Paul Atchley
Rosa Nell Marsh

JANICE ROBINSON

M/M Tim Long

MARK SCOTT

M/M Scott Capps

MAI SMITH

Anonymous

PAUL SPARKMAN

M/M James K. Ragland

MARY ALICE STOVER

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M/M Scott Capps
M/M Bob Garland
M/M Kevin McCaleb

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Lansden Church of Christ

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JEWEL TURNER

Elease Barton

DAVID VAUGHN

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Julie Denney
M/M Ken Shepherd

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HOLLIS WALKER

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Elaine McCormick

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Deborah Benefield
M/M Will England
Ralph, Janice, Pat, Dick,
Joyce & Brenda
M/M James K. Ragland
M/M John W Smith
Hilda Sorrell

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Smyrna Church of Christ
Debbie Flatt & Family
M/M Carl Jones
Kevin Jones Family
M/M Randy Kinnaird
Dennis Kinnaird & Family
Ronnie Kinnard & Family
The Late Colonel & Nancy
Loftis
Sharon Peck & Family
Sherry Pippin & Family
Donna Smith & Family

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M/M Scott Capps
M/M Bob Garland
M/M Kevin McCaleb

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M/M Jim Barks
Batey Benjamin
Dale Bryson
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Algood Church of Christ
Rock Island Church of Christ
Cattleman's Assoc. Dekalb
County
M/M Will England
M/M Billy Fuqua
M/M Hugh Hillis
Anna Lou Holman
M/M Steve Jones
Jimmy, Emily, Clark &
Heather
M/M Baton Lay
Leslie Ludlow
Christy Luna
Nancy Nelson
M/M Ricky Prater
M/M Gary Roberson
Ann Roberts
M/M Roberts Selby
Danielle Ullrich

JUANITA WILLIAMS

Ola Mae Agee

JERRY WILSON

M/M Paul Atchley

BERTYE YATES

Doyle Church of Christ

MICHAEL YORK

M/M Chris Coil

ROY YOUNG

M/M Larsen Allen

HONORS

CHRISTINE BURROUGHS

M/M Glenn A. Foutch

CLARENCE DeLOACH 90th BIRTHDAY

Houston & Beverly Bynum

STAFF & CHILDREN OF HAPPY

HAVEN

M/M John Deppen

PEGGY FITZPATRICK

Julie Denney

CAROLINE VAUGHN

Julie Denney



GRADUATION 2026





IT'S TIME TO BE OUTSIDE!

Do you have a few Corn Hole board games you would be willing to donate to us? We would love to have some outside games for the Happy Haven families to enjoy. Call us at 931-526-2052 or email at happyhaven@frontiernet.net if you can help.



Hello Baby!

Sam & Sydney are the proud parents of Stephen! He was born on May 17th at 12:04 a.m. at 7lbs, 10 oz and 20" long. Stephen joins his big brother, Watson, and his parents as part of the family in our Gainesboro House.

ORGANIZATION IS THE NAME OF THE GAME!

Do you have some working filing cabinets you would love to get rid of? Our office needs 2-3 four-drawer filing cabinets for records storage. They would need to be delivered to us as we don't have a truck to pick up anything. Call us at 931-526-2052 or email at happyhaven@frontiernet.net if you can help.



LIVING MEMORIAL - HONOR GIFT

Enclosed is my gift to Happy Haven Homes

In Memory of or In Honor of: Name: _____

Deceased Birthday In Friendship Anniversary Amount: \$ _____

Send acknowledgement to:

Donor is:

Name

Name

Address

Address

City State ZIP

City State ZIP

Mail to: HAPPY HAVEN HOMES, INC. • 2311 Wakefield Dr. • Cookeville, TN 38501

HAPPY HAVEN HOMES, INC.

2311 Wakefield Dr. • Cookeville, TN 38501

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
COOKEVILLE, TN
PERMIT NO. 127

Administrator: Houston Bynum

Houseparents: Sydney & Samuel Moore

Case Worker: Cindy Lindecker

Administrative Beverly Bynum

Assistants: Linda Lipe

Board Members:

Phil Carter Mike Fox

Chris Cassetty Kevin Smith

Barry Daniel Ronald Strong

Dan Evans Pat Wilhite

Phone: 931-526-2052

Fax: 931-372-8837

Email: happyhaven@frontiernet.net

Website: www.happyhaven.org

*Has Your Address Changed?
Are You Moving Soon?
Be Sure To Let Us Know!*



PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED

- Paper napkins
- Paper plates (not styrofoam)
- Paper towels
- Toilet Paper – septic safe
- Bottled water
- Oatmeal packets
- Cereals
- Individual Snack Packs
- Body Wash
- Makeup cleansing wipes
- Shampoos/Conditioners
- Dishwasher powder
- Dish soap-Liquid
- Liquid Laundry Detergent
- Liquid Hand Soap
- Trash Bags w/drawstrings: kitchen & trash
- Ziploc bags

What's happening at Happy Haven

A note from Cindy,

In February, Sydney and Sam took the girls to Gatlinburg to attend CYC.

In April, house parents and girls went to Lads to Leaders and all the girls led a song. They did not bring home any awards, but all the girls told me they had a great time.

Our house mom Sydney had a baby boy named Stephen. Baby came a little earlier than expected but both mom and baby are healthy and doing well.

Bailey graduated from Upperman High school in May and moved into the Happy Haven apartment. Bailey will be attending Tennessee Tech in the fall and studying to become a music teacher. Bailey also just received her driver's license and bought herself a car. She is on her way to being a fully independent adult and we are so proud of her accomplishments.

