

# Princess Di: has it really been 25 years?

By Danny Tyree

Believe it or not, August 31 is the 25th anniversary of the traffic accident that robbed the world of the effervescent Diana, Princess of Wales.



Diana was a distant, distant cousin (my great-great grandfather Tyree married Mary Ann Spencer a century before I was born); but even without that connection, I feel compelled to dedicate this week's column to drawing a few lessons from her too-brief life.

The philosophy "Seemed like a good idea at the time" sums up so much of her public career.

In retrospect, marrying a much-older heir to the throne (whose personality was incompatible with hers and who carried a torch for his present wife) doesn't sound like the classic recipe for "lived happily ever after"; but it seemed like a good idea at the time to Diana and the millions who watched the wedding on TV.

Agreeing to keep up with all the arbitrary royal etiquette and obligations apparently seemed like a good idea at the time, since Netflix's "The Crown" wasn't around in 1981 to air dirty laundry.

The extramarital affairs that brought Diana and Prince Charles to the point of separation and divorce probably seemed like a good idea at the time, but the scandal had a lasting impact on the family and the world.

The paparazzi who giddily chased Diana's vehicle through Paris's Pont de l'Alma tunnel obviously thought it seemed like a good idea to wallow in wretched excess and snap just one more batch of photographs of one of the most photographed women in the world.

The driver of Diana's car thought it was a good idea (a fun challenge?) to outrun the

paparazzi, but the crash soon cost the lives of Diana, her boyfriend and the driver.

Royalty and commoners alike could learn from the way Diana's life and death played out.

"You only live once" is the sparkly mantra of many, but there is still a place for doing cost-benefit analyses and counting to ten before making a decision. There remains virtue in adages such as "Measure twice, cut once," "Haste makes waste," "If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is" and the like.

Luckily, several good things did come out of the bad decisions surrounding Diana.

As part of the royal family, Diana had a bully pulpit for advancing her pet projects, including the welfare of AIDS patients and the International Red Cross campaign for the removal of landmines.

(My best friend from third grade passed away from AIDS complications as an adult, so the issue resonates with me.)

Diana's beloved sons are still with us. Although Harry seems to revel in being the outcast of the family, William gives all indications of being a solid monarch someday.

And of course, by dying at the tender age of 36, Diana remains forever young in the public imagination.

Queen Elizabeth II remains immensely popular at age 96, but who knows what a fickle press would have done with a 61-year-old Diana? As it is, her style, compassion and zest for life remain preserved in amber for future generations.

As you hum the "Goodbye, England's Rose" version of "Candle in the Wind" this month, spend a little time analyzing your own decision-making processes. You may not ensure a fairytale ending for you and your loved ones, but maybe you can avoid royally messing up.

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# POLICE BLOTTER

A Lewisburg man was charged with false imprisonment and domestic assault after allegedly forcibly holding a Petersburg woman in a motel room Sunday and Monday, according to a Marshall County Sheriff's Office report.

Bond was set at \$2,000 for Kameron Garrett Dye, 24, of Verona Caney Road.

Dye and the victim, who have allegedly been in a relationship, are co-workers at a business in Columbia. As they left work Sunday, Dye allegedly forced himself into the driver's seat of her vehicle.

They drove away but ended up back at their workplace, where he allegedly refused to exit the car. The victim told investigators she tried to leap from the car but Dye pulled her back in, scratching her face in the process.

Dye "began screaming because of her bleeding," the report said. She allegedly passed out at that point while Dye drove to Lewisburg and rented the room.

"After getting the room, he made her keep her head down so no one could see the injuries to her face," MCSO Sgt. Matt Owens said in the report.

Dye allegedly kept an eye on every movement she made until he left to obtain food, the victim said. At that point she called a family member for help but was unable to specify her location.

A u t h o r i t i e s

checked local motels and found them at Celebration Inn on Nashville Highway.

The victim told authorities she was trying to end the relationship with Dye.

## Costly 'repair'

An online scammer claiming to be "repairing" a computer cost a Lewisburg man more than \$27,000 last week.

The victim told the Lewisburg Police Department he was paying bills online Thursday when a message popped up that his anti-virus protection was about to expire. He called a number within the message. A man with a foreign accent told the victim he could fix the problem for \$400 if the computer was left on overnight.

The victim's companion arrived home later, checked the computer and discovered it wasn't working properly.

Bank officials told the victim Friday that \$27,660 had been removed from his bank account by wire transfer.

## Thefts

• More than \$3,000 worth of a professional photographer's equipment was stolen from a home in the 4700 block of Eagleview Pike during or after a wedding July 2, the MCSO was told Wednesday, Aug. 17.

A Nikon D7200 digital camera valued at \$1,100, lens valued at \$1,700 and battery grip valued at \$300 are missing. They had been left in a sunroom at the

home while the photographer used other equipment during the wedding.

The theft report was filed after the home's residents and members of the wedding party said they hadn't seen the items.

• A bicycle and a pressure washer were stolen from the back yard of a home on Seventh Avenue South on Tuesday or Wednesday of last week, a Lewisburg Police Department report said. Total loss is estimated at \$480.

## 'Rant' leads to arrest

A woman who alternately claimed to be a county commissioner, police supervisor, and doctor was charged with criminal trespassing after allegedly refusing to leave Marshall Medical Center early Sunday, an LPD report said.

Dennise Beechraft, 62, of Hickory Drive, Lewisburg, was arrested after approximately 24 minutes of "ranting about various subjects" and refusing to leave, according to Officer Adam Ferguson's report. She had accompanied a man who was seen by a physician.

Beechraft continued yelling in Marshall County Jail as Ferguson attempted to read her the arrest warrant, the report said. Bond was set at \$500.

## Drug charges

Two men were charged with possession of methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia when found behind the cemetery on Finley Beech Road on Aug. 11.

Lewisburg officers were notified of two men in a truck being driven slowly on Elm Street. The men ap-

peared to be looking closely at houses.

"The police department has had a lot of drug activity in that area," Officer Robert Gurley said in his report.

Timothy Wiser and Stanley Pullen, the truck's occupants, allegedly told Gurley they "were walking through the woods looking for cane sticks."

Wiser, the truck's owner, gave Gurley permission to search. A bag containing 1.08 grams of meth and several bags containing traces of meth were inside, Gurley said.

Bond for both was set at \$3,000.

## Drug finds

Possible drugs were discovered at two locations in Lewisburg over the past week, police said.

• A towel with a "dark residue," two cut straws and two sheets of foil were found Monday in a vacant unit at Maple Grove Apartments, South Ellington Parkway by employees.

• A pouch containing approximately 5 grams of a "white crystal powder" and four cut straws with the powder inside was recovered from the parking lot of Dollar General Market, North Ellington Parkway.

## Registry violation

A Chapel Hill man has been accused of not being in compliance with the Tennessee Sex Offender Registry, Joseph Lee Williams, 25, of Evelyn Avenue was arrested Friday at his home. The MCSO was notified in July that Williams had moved from a Nashville Highway home without notifying authorities.

Bond was set at \$5,000 for Williams.

## Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event September 10th, 2022

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Marshall County Recycling Hub  
611 Hawkins Drive, Lewisburg, TN

Household Hazardous Waste - is defined as corrosive, flammable, toxic, or reactive materials used in your home, car or truck, or garden and lawn that is unwanted/unusable.

Now's your chance... It's FREE!

You can dispose of all those left over household chemicals, lawn and garden products and automotive materials that you've never known what to do with.

### Things to Bring:

#### Household Cleaners

Drain Openers • Oven Cleaners  
Wood Cleaners & Polishes  
Metal Cleaners & Polishes  
Toilet Bowl Cleaners  
Disinfectants

#### Home Maintenance

##### Chemicals

Paint Thinner  
Wood Preservatives  
Paint Strippers & Removers,  
Adhesives

#### Miscellaneous

Fingernail Polish Remover  
Pool Chemicals  
Photo Processing Chemicals  
Medicines & Drugs  
Reactive Materials  
Aerosols (spray cans)  
Compressed Gas  
Mercury Thermostats  
Mercury Thermometers  
Fluorescent Light Bulbs  
Needles/Sharps (in container)  
Lead

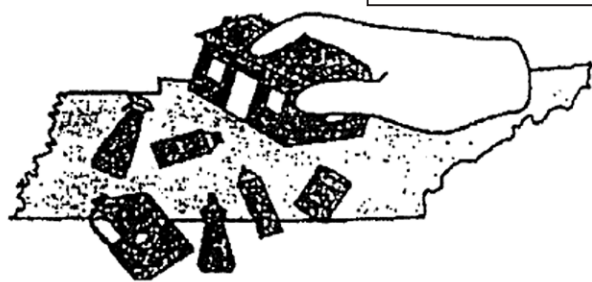
#### Lawn & Garden Chemicals

Herbicides • Pesticides  
Fungicides • Fertilizers

#### Automotive Products

Fuel Additives  
Grease & Rust Solvents  
Air Conditioning Refrigerants  
Starter Fluids  
Body Putty  
Coolants  
Carburetor/Fuel Injector  
Cleaners

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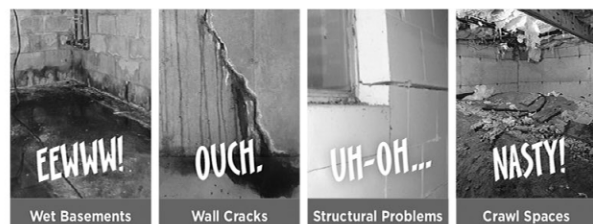
**NO Medical or Infectious Waste (besides needles and sharps in puncture-proof containers), Explosives, Ammunition, Radioactive waste including smoke detectors, or any empty containers. Waste from NON-household sources such as Businesses, Schools, Farms, Churches, Etc. will be accepted BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. Call 615-643-3170 to request a price quote and schedule an appointment.**

Batteries, oil, paint, and antifreeze are accepted daily at 611 Hawkins Drive.

If you have questions or need additional information, please call 931-359-0547.

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