

POLICE BLOTTER

A woman accused of asking people for money at NHC Lewisburg allegedly took a debit card from a patient on Monday, Dec. 19, police said.

The victim, told police he'd let the woman borrow the card because he needed someone to pay his cell phone bill at Walmart and purchase more hours. She never returned the card.

STOLEN CAR

The keys to a 2007 Saturn Vue SUV were left atop an air conditioning unit outside Walking Horse Lodge, North Ellington Parkway, on the night of Saturday, Dec. 17.

Those keys were gone but the SUV still outside when the owner began looking for the keys later Saturday, police said. But the SUV was gone by Sunday morning.

The owner said he suspects a man seen near the motel who is known for stealing vehicles.

The SUV is silver and has several musical groups' promotional stickers on the rear window.

DOG SHELTERED

Lewisburg police rescued a dog Thursday from the near-zero temperatures.

Officers were notified of a short-haired dog tied behind an Old Lane Road home. The Igloo dog shelter contained two empty bowls and no bedding such as straw or shavings, Officer Wyatt Evans' report said.

Neighbors told Evans the dog's caretakers were gone at the time and are rarely home.

The dog was taken to Marshall County Animal Shelter and Animal Control notified.

WRECKED AND RAN

A man allegedly sideswiped another vehicle Thursday while attempting to pass it on North Ellington Parkway, a Lewisburg Police report said.

The suspect told the victim to pull into a near-by parking lot, then sped away when she did so.

Police said the victim described the suspect as a short Latino male driving a blue or gray Ford Mustang with a Bedford County plate.

PHONE STOLEN

A cell phone was stolen from a locked vehicle by a woman who has allegedly been harassing the owner, police said.

The suspect allegedly ran toward the victim, a longtime acquaintance, at a Nashville Highway convenience store while carrying a knife. The victim locked the vehicle while making a purchase inside the store. She returned to the vehicle and the phone was missing.

The victim told police the suspect has a key to the vehicle and likely took the phone. She said the suspect may have a tracking device on the vehicle, has been driving recklessly near her when spotting her on the streets and is watching her home.

Cold enough for you?

By **Danny Tyree**

I won't hazard a guess as to whether it achieves immortality like "grassy knoll" or "hanging chads," but surely the phrase "bomb cyclone storm" will remain in the public consciousness of those who endured its cruelties.

We'll laugh about this someday, but right now an awful lot of Americans have a "single digit-it" they'd like to give right back to Mother Nature.

And we're not exactly chummy with 2022, which on its way out is taunting us with, "Bet now you wish you had bought the extended warranty!"

Yes, I mourn for those who lost their lives due to the recent winter weather event (event as in "One... night... only! Well, two nights only! Would you believe three or four nights only? Tell a buddy, bring a flame thrower!"), but those of us who survived will be talking about dead automobile batteries, industrial-strength windshield de-icer, "rolling blackouts" and other inconveniences for a

long time. Assuming our tongues aren't still stuck to a lamppost in the summer of 2027.

I'm still waiting for the other snow-covered shoe to drop, but so far there has mercifully been only muted politicization of the blizzard (vis-a-vis climate change debates). Okay, I did overhear one social justice warrior protesting the term "once-in-a-generation phenomenon" because (duh) it's offensive to mayflies.

I know meteorologists gave the citizenry several days' notice of the potential hazards, but folks really should have been paying closer attention earlier in the year. For instance, when wooly worm caterpillars replaced their familiar dark bands with patterns of Four Horsemen. (Nice job of burying the lede, almanac editors!)

Catastrophes like this bring out our resourcefulness and teamwork, but they are also a

grim reminder of human frailty and mortality. Granted, wearing layer upon layer upon layer of clothing makes our guard down concerning firearms-related mortality in particular. ("Is that all you got, punk? You sure that's not an assault peashooter?")

Canceled flights, curtailed bus routes and treacherous backroads caused many families to cancel, reschedule or scale back their celebrations. The weather conditions forced travelers to progress rather quickly from Plan B to Plan C. ("I'll be home for Christmas, if only in my dreams - assuming I get any sleep with all the &^%\$# snoring at the terminal!")

Alas, even some of the intrepid souls who made it through the snow and slush to celebrate the holidays with their loved ones became disoriented upon arrival because of the absence of familiar landmarks. (Statistics are still being compiled on how many lawn gnomes declared, "Forget this! I'm MOVING to Nome!")

Other frostbitten travelers got turned away at the front door, because they were mistaken for Blue Man Group. ("Now, if Cirque du Soleil had come knocking on the door, we'd have fetched them some eggnog, right, Ma?")

Some families redoubled their efforts to spread joy and goodwill despite the blizzard, but others made a calculated decision to tick off their neighbors. ("Did you see the price of propane, honey? We need all the free flaming sacks of dog poop we can get!")

I'm grateful that residents of the handful of states that escaped the direct impact of the winter storm have sent thoughts, prayers and good vibes our way.

They empathize because, while they dodged a bullet this time, they realize their time will come for wildfires, earthquakes, floods or ...a hundred-year infestation of smart-aleck columnists!

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Large glossy leaves of Lusterleaf Holly shine in any landscape

UT Gardens' December 2022 plant of the month

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. - Hollies are versatile plants with a wide range of uses in the landscape. Perhaps my favorite species of this genus is Ilex latifolia, commonly called the lusterleaf holly.

From a distance, the leaves of Ilex latifolia are often mistaken for

those of the Southern magnolia, Magnolia grandiflora. I recall the first time I saw a specimen of this plant. It was being used in a living screen, and I was about 30 yards away when I myself made this incorrect assumption! I was initially drawn to the large, flat leaves. They were wide at the base and tapered towards the tip, leathery in texture, and some were even larger than the size of my hand. Upon closer inspection, I noticed the plant's heavy berry load. The berries, which were immature and green at that time, were forming in huge clusters nestled at the leaf axils (where the leaf attaches to the branch) and encircling the stem. As the season progressed into winter, the berries turned a deep, dull red and were visible from a great distance, which only added to this plant's beauty.

Ilex latifolia has a narrow, dense pyramidal shape, reaches average heights of 20 to 25 feet, and growth is considered slow. The large, broad leaves can reach 6- to 8-inches long and 3- to 4-inches wide. They are dark green and their upper surface is shiny and lustrous, which lends itself to the plant's common name of lusterleaf holly. The leaf margins are edged evenly with small, coarse teeth, not spiny. Ilex latifolia prefers the heat of summers in the South and is hardy from USDA hardiness zones 7 through 9. There are several cultivars, but the straight species is the most commonly found at garden centers and is a grand addition to any landscape.

In my opinion, this species has the most beautiful foliage of all the hollies. It is resistant to heat, insects

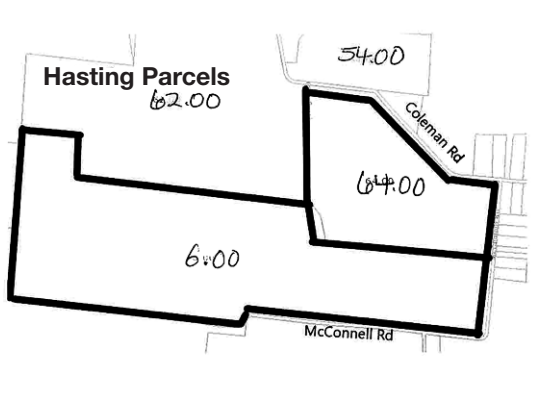
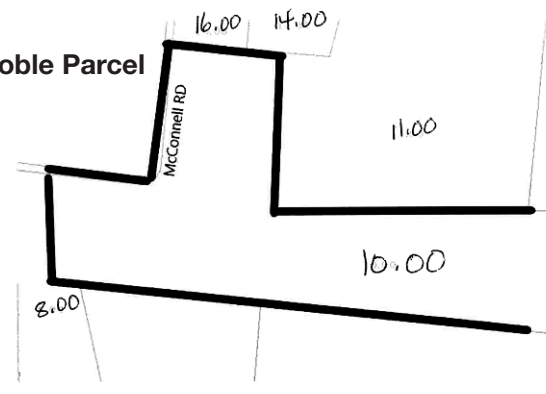
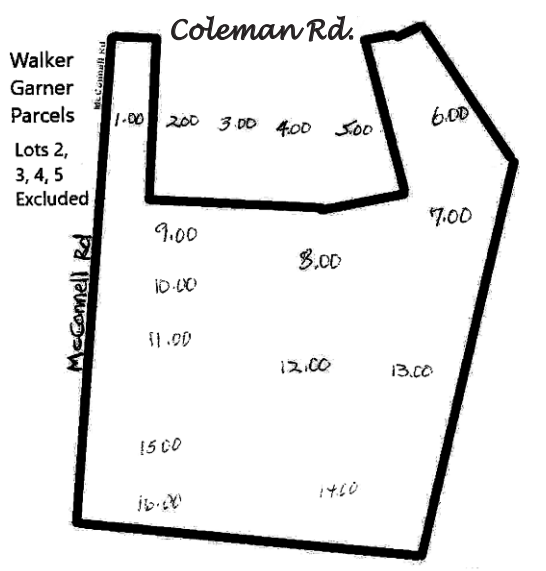
and diseases and could serve equally well as a specimen, in a grouping or as a component of a living screen. While this holly is not currently used widely in landscapes, it is worth consideration, and in the authoritative "Manual of Woody Landscape Plants," Michael Dirr writes that Ilex latifolia "certainly ranks among the best of the broadleaf evergreens."

Specimens of Ilex latifolia can be seen growing on the UT Gardens, Jackson, grounds in a screen planting located on the northern side of the east end of the conifer bed, as well as in a tapestry screen planting beyond the annual trial berms on the west side of the garden.

Submitted by Celeste Luckey Scott, Extension Agent, UT-TSU Extension Madison County

Town of Cornersville PUBLIC HEARING/ ANNEXATION STUDY

The Cornersville Board of Mayor and Aldermen will have a public hearing regarding the plan of services and annexation study for the annexation of properties on McConnell Rd and Coleman Rd on January 5, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Cornersville Town Hall, 118 S. Main St. The regular meeting of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen will occur at 6:30 p.m. on January 5, 2022 following the public hearing. The proposed plan of services will be available at the Cornersville Town Hall for public viewing. Maps delineating the area to be annexed are included below:





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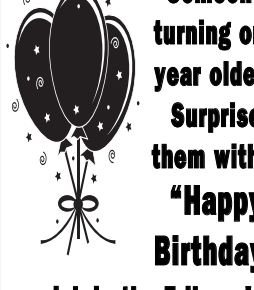
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