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Eviction case under the tree

Pro bono Christmas tree gives attorneys a chance to help those in need.

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REAL ESTATE

Confessions of a Zillow 'addict'

Realtor Lillian Andrews turns her obsession into a lucrative career.

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TENNESSEE TITANS

Balance in an unbalanced era

The Titans are doing what few teams have done in the last 50 years.

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YEARS AGO

What was going on in Chattanooga in 1970?

Saturday, December 19 to Wednesday, December 23:

The Hamilton County grand jury has recommended in its quarterly report that serious study be given to the possibility of unification of the county's law enforcement agencies.

The new \$1.7 million building at Chattanooga State Technical Institute was formally accepted by the State Department of Education, Dec. 17, from the H.E. Collins Contracting Co., following an inspection tour by state and federal officials, architects and other staff members.

Advance reports from the U.S. Census district office in Atlanta show Chattanooga's official census count will be 119,082, or 6,049 more than the preliminary total, Mayor A.L. Bender's office announced.

See 50 YEARS AGO, page 4



Bracing for a blue Christmas

Lives lost to pandemic weighing heavily as holidays approach

By Hollie Deese

Some of the hardest moments of Dawn Stultz Kingsley's life were a stretch of nine days in October as her father, Vader Stultz, lay inside Sumner Regional Medical Center on a ventilator, dying from COVID-19.

She was inside her car, staring at the windows of the hospital, wondering in which room her father was isolated. Was he scared? Because she was.

"My poor dad had to lay up there in that hospital bed alone for nine days," Kingsley says. "I couldn't hold his hand when he could still see us and talk to us. We couldn't

love on him. And we all know that the love of your family – not being alone – is the thing that you need the most when you're this sick."

Kingsley is one of more than 5,000 thousand family members across Tennessee who have had to make end of life decisions without laying eyes on their loved ones, and in some cases, unable to be present with them when they took their last breaths.

It is one of the most painful tragedies associated with the pandemic – keeping those who aren't infected away from those who are – even as the patient is dying. There is a risk to the community, and particularly,

to family caregivers who may themselves be elderly or in a high-risk group for the virus.

"I don't fault the doctors and the nurses, they were wonderful to us, and they were wonderful to him, but the system is broken," Kingsley points out.

Kingsley fought every day to be able to see her father, who was 78 when he died. She offered to sign waivers and wear full PPE, but SRMC was steadfast in its policy as loved ones were agreeing to end-of-life decisions and saying goodbye on FaceTime.

She and her mother Wanda finally got approved for one visit for 30 minutes, one

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