

# Health care heroes at AHC Westwood receive awards

Laura Alexander and Victoria Yager recognized for excellence by the Tennessee Health Care Association

FRANKLIN, Tenn. [November 2, 2020] -AHC Westwood, a senior living and rehabilitation community in Decaturville, Tennessee, announced that Laura Alexander, dietary manager, and Victoria Yager, certified nursing assistant, were recently honored by the Tennessee Health Care Association (THCA) for making a difference in nursing home care.

Alexander was named Dietary Supervisors Association Member of the Year, and Yager was awarded Jackson District Caregiver of the Year. These recognitions are given to outstanding employees in long-term care facilities across the state by the THCA. Each year, the association gives out 10 awards for excellence and five awards for district caregivers.

"Laura and Victoria are very deserving of these awards," said Melinda

Wade, administrator at AHC Westwood. "They routinely go the extra mile ensure our residents are well taken care of. That hasn't been easy this past year, but they have adapted to our new normal with grace and compassion. We couldn't be prouder of them."

Alexander started working at AHC Westwood as a cook 21 years ago. Just over five years later, she was promoted to dietary manager and has been active in the Tennessee Dietary Supervisors Association, including serving a president for two years. She was nominated for the THCA award based in part on her achievements in helping residents meet and maintain weight-loss goals.

"Laura leads by example," Wade says. "She encourages staff to be friendly and courteous at all times. She's also in-



Alexander



Yager

involved in community activities like Relay for Life and helps out with all our facility events.

Yager is also worked at AHC Westwood for 21 years. As a certified nursing assistant, she has a passion for working with older people. She spends her days helping resident with bathing and dressing, as well as assisting them with meals and other activities of daily living.

"During our recent COVID-19 situation, Victoria was the first to step

up and volunteer to take care of new and returning residents," Wade says. "She treats each resident like her own family member. She's the textbook definition of 'caregiver.'"

In addition to these AHC Westwood employees, THCA also recognized Dorothy Goodrum as the Directors of Nursing Association (DONA) Member of the Year. Goodrum was the assistant director of nursing at AHC McNairy County until her recent retirement.

## Mills named to State Council

Breanna Mills recently ran for Senior Representative for the TN 4-H State Council. Her campaign slogan of, "Beef it up with Bree" helped her land the position on the state council. Her responsibilities include—but are not limited to—preparing and planning Tennessee 4-H activities and conferences. Bree recently served as Junior Representative for TN State 4-H Council and is currently serving as Decatur County 4-H Honor Club President. Please help us in congratulating Breanna in being elected as a Senior Representative for the Tennessee 4-H State Council.



## Long elected 4-H Scout for the Western Region All Star Council

"Don't be Ridiculous: Vote for Nickolas" was the campaign message Nicolas Long promoted when he ran for a position on the Western Region 4-H All-Star Council. He was elected as the Western Region 4-H All Star Scout. His responsibilities include serving as a Sargent of Arms during business meetings, preparing promotional materials, and assisting with service learning project reports. Nickolas is the Western Region 4-H All Star Southeast Area Representative and is currently the Decatur County 4-H Honor Club Treasurer. Please help us in congratulating Nickolas in being elected as the 4-H Scout for the Western Region All Star Council.



## England is Top Scoring Individual at Regional 4-H Life Skills Competition

Congratulations to Millie Jo England for winning Top Scoring Individual at the Regional 4-H Life Skills Virtual Judging Competition. LifeSkills is a Family and Consumer Sciences program for junior high youth that involves learning from online resources and competing in regional events. At the competitions, participants will apply skills and knowledge in Family and Consumer Sciences subject matter such as counting change; child discipline, food safety and health.



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# Decatur County Humane Assoc.

By Gail Olsen

This has been a bad week. It is difficult to drive anywhere in the county without coming across pitiful, hungry, stray dogs. Two stray dogs off Highway 412 have been abandoned and are loyally awaiting the return of their owner. They leave the porch in search of food, only to be shooed away by scared, thoughtless or busy neighbors. A homeless dog by the river searches for food at campsites only to be shot at and run off by campers. It seems that while we all are scratching our heads over what to do with these poor defenseless creatures, they are multiplying in our county. Should we take

one more dog home? Should we leave him some food to help get him through one more night? One thing is for sure we can't just stand back and let this cruelty happen. If we see this happening we must speak up for the stray dogs, as they can't speak up for themselves. As Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."

We firmly believe that focusing our efforts on a low-cost spay/neuter program is the only long term solution to the widespread pet overpopulation problem. We also believe that pet owners should be responsible enough to care for their pets throughout

their lifetime. If you are committed enough to bring home a pet today, you need to be committed enough to care for him tomorrow. A dog or cat is a member of your family. It's that simple. They are not alarm systems, temporary entertainment, or lawn ornaments. It's your responsibility to provide for them as such. We, as humans, caused the over population of dogs and cats either by not having our pets neutered and spayed or by tossing our pets out onto the street for a life of homelessness, after the novelty of owning one wore off. That said, we also know that life is unpredictable. Stuff happens. We all need help from time to time.

So what is the answer? In the meantime, if you see a stray dog or cat in your neighborhood, be kind. If you should decide to keep him or her or try to find loving homes, please remember the most loving thing you can do for homeless dogs and cats everywhere is to get them spayed or neutered. It is a good person and a good deed to help out a stray.

To contact us, you have several options, via mail; Decatur County Humane Association, P.O. Box 514, Parsons, TN 38363; or via e-mail at: [dchatn@live.com](mailto:dchatn@live.com). Keep updated by checking our Facebook page: Decatur County (TN) Humane Association.

## General Sessions

**Jonathan Rebel Balderas** - Theft (up to \$1000); reset 11-30-20  
-Aggravated Assault; reset 11-30-20  
-Aggravated Assault; reset 11-30-20  
-Assault-physical contact; reset 11-30-20  
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**William E. Brown** - Domestic assault; reset 12-7-20  
**Shannon Michael Cole** -Aggravated assault-domestic; reset 12-14-20  
**Steve Dora** - Leave scene of accident-property damage; reset 12-7-20  
**Anthony Arlon Funderburk** - Interference with emergency calls; reset 11-9-20  
-Domestic assault; reset 11-9-20  
**Brandon Kyle Gatewood** - Speeding; reset-12-7-20  
-Poss unlaw drug paraphernalia uses & activities; reset 12-7-20  
-Driving while license revoked; reset 12-7-20  
-Schedule VI drugs: mfg, del, sell, poss; reset 12-7-20  
-Display/possess cancel/revoked/susp or altered DL; reset 12-7-20  
**Kevin Andrew Sage** - Vandalism (up to \$1,000); reset 11-9-20  
-Domestic assault; reset 11-9-20  
-Violation of order of protection/restraining

order; reset 11-9-20  
**Johnnie Danielle Stiles Sippel** - Simple poss/casual exchange (marj <1/2 oz or 14.175 grams); reset 1-11-20  
-Driving while license suspended; reset 11-11-20  
Sheila Graves Adkins - Accessory after the fact; reset 11-23-20  
-False reports to officer; reset 11-23-20  
**Karina Yolanda Antel** - Statutory rape by authority figure-fac; Bound over to Grand Jury  
-Statutory rape by authority figure; Bound over to Grand Jury  
**Dessa Rene Bates** - Schedule VI drugs: mfg, del, sell, poss; reset 12-7-20  
-Speeding; reset 12-7-20  
**Corey Ray Borron** - simple poss/casual exchange (marj <1/2 oz or 14.175 grams); reset 1-4-20  
-Implied consent-misd; reset 1-4-20  
-DUI: Second offense; reset 1-4-20  
-Registration expired; reset 1-4-20  
-Open container; reset 1-4-20  
**Jonathan Ryan Chandler** - Seat belt-18 and older; reset 1-4-20  
-Financial responsibility law; reset 1-4-20  
-Registration expired; reset 1-4-20  
-Light law-motor vehicle; reset 1-4-20

-DUI: First offense; reset 1-4-20  
-Poss unlaw drug paraphernalia uses & activities; reset 1-4-20  
**Teresa Ann Capilla Derryberry** - Aggravated assault-use or display deadly weapon; dismissed  
**Nicholas Lynn Ernest** - Open container; reset 1-4-21  
-Simple poss/casual exchange (marj <1/2 oz or 14.175 grams); reset 1-4-21  
-Poss unlaw drug paraphernalia uses & activities; reset 1-4-21  
-DUI: Second offense; reset 1-4-21  
**Jeffery Dean Hayes** - Financial responsibility law; reset 12-21-20  
-Driving while license revoked; reset 12-21-20  
-Driving unregistered vehicle on highway; reset 12-21-20  
**Tracy Lane Jones** - Abuse of vulnerable adult; Bound over to Grand Jury  
**Thomas Anthony Jordan** - DUI: First offenses; reset 1-4-21  
-Seat belt-18 and older; reset 1-4-21  
-Financial responsibility law; reset 1-4-21  
-Unlawful removal/al-teration of registration; reset 1-4-21  
-Unlawful use of telecommunication device while driving; reset 1-4-21  
**Tiffany Renne Kent** - Domestic assault-physical contact; not guilty  
**Marcus M. Kinnon** - Public intox; reset 1-4-21

-Obedience to police officers; reset 1-4-21  
-Domestic assault; reset 1-4-21  
**Chas Dylan Lomax** - Meth-possess or casual exchange; sentenced to 11/29 to serve 30 days with \$750 fine and cost  
-Simple poss/casual exchange (marj 1/2 oz or 14.175 grams); dismissed  
-Poss unlaw drug paraphernalia uses & activities; sentenced to 11/29 to serve 0 with \$150 fine and cost  
-Light law-motor vehicle; dismissed  
-Meth-possess or casual exchange; dismissed  
-Registration expired; dismissed  
**Jamie Lynn Mays** - DUI by allowing; dismissed  
**Allen Austin Rice** - Child abuse/neglect/endangerment 8 yrs or less; reset 11-9-20  
**James S. Scott** - Criminal trespass; reset 11-16-20  
-Violation of order of protection/restraining order; reset 11-16-20  
**Marlene Michelle Stout** -Financial exploitation elderly/vulnerable person; reset 11-16-20  
**Dusty D. Warren** - Sexual battery; Bound over to Grand Jury  
-Rape; Bound over to Grand Jury  
**Troy Lynn Williams** - Driving while license revoked (2nd or sub)-due to conviction of DUI: reset 11-9-20