

The Orchid venue blooms in MW

MOUNT WASHINGTON — At one time there was a property near the town of Mount Washington that grew orchids alongside a large family home. The home is still there, now located within the city of Mount Washington, but the orchids are gone. However, a new business brought both back to life as a new event venue. The Orchid began hosting its first events in August in the home building located at 9590 Highway 44 East. Owners Laura and Keith McDonough named the

venue after the former orchid farm. They felt the renovated location would be great for hosting both indoor and outdoor special events. The owners live in Mount Washington with their two children, Riley and Olivia. Laura works as a real estate agent and also has a background as a DJ. Keith rebuilds houses. The couple also owns an Airbnb location. “A friend of mine asked me to walk through (the house),” Laura said. “I pictured the bridal suite. Both sides of the wedding would have their own staircase. I

call Keith and said I found our venue.” “I told her I didn’t even know we were looking for one,” Keith responded. The Orchid house includes separate upstairs facilities for the bride and groom parties of a wedding. Each contains dressing areas, large mirrors, and lounges for relaxing prior to the big event. An outdoor pavilion and patio area can hold a larger crowd, while a downstairs portion of the house includes an intimate meeting area with a fireplace. “We are more intimate

here,” Laura said. “It’s not just for weddings, we can host all types of events. We added many chandeliers, we fixed up the fireplaces, there are stained glass windows... it’s a very charming space.” Laura credited their event coordinator, Lydia Alstatt, for helping prepare The Orchid to host events on day one. “A venue spot has always been a dream of mine, ever since I’ve been in the realtor business,” she said. For more information on The Orchid, visit theorchidvenue.com, or find their social media pages.



Stephen Thomas

MOBILE

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and Afghanistan will also be represented, including Bullitt Countian SSGT Gary Lee Woods, Jr., who died in 2009 at age 24 in Iraq. “(The memorial) is still going, it has not ended,” Thornton reminded. “They’re still adding to it. That’s the sad part.” The Global War on Terrorism Tribute was first unveiled and displayed in Richmond, Indiana. Thornton said Shepherdsville would become just the second location to publicly display the wall. An escort is scheduled to arrive at Paroquet Springs Conference Center around 6 pm Thursday, with community members invited to attend and greet the escort upon its arrival.

According to Thornton, the wall will be placed in front of PSCC, in the grassy area that holds the flag poles. It will be open to the public as of 10 am Friday morning. The memorial will remain available for public view through late Sunday evening. Warrior Rounds and Bullitt County Music Fest will present related activities on Saturday, beginning with the Jeep-Ville Club of Shepherdsville’s Bike and Jeep Bash. The free event includes show registration from 10 am to noon, with the official jam taking place from noon to 5 pm. There will be a corn hole tournament, along with raffles and booths hosted by veteran-based vendors. Food trucks will be available, as well as coffee and cocoa. At 6 pm, activities will move inside the conference centre for a free concert. According to Thornton, the show will

include some very special performances. Warrior Rounds provides music therapy by inviting individuals such as combat veterans, Gold Star mothers, and cancer survivors to sit with local songwriters. The two discuss the individual’s personal life and struggles,

with the songwriter turning that into a song. Thornton said eight songs have been written that will be performed during the concert, accompanied by video performances. Local band Salt River Revival will serve as the house band, performing alongside the

songwriters. With the focus of the weekend being the tribute wall itself, Thornton said a few guest speakers will be scheduled near the wall on both Saturday and Sunday. He reminded that the wall was available for view all 24 hours each day throughout

the weekend. AVTT’s Global War on Terrorism Tribute will be displayed at Paroquet Springs from 10 am Friday, Nov. 21, through late Sunday, Nov. 23. For more information visit avtt.org. For information on Warrior Rounds go to warriorrounds.com.



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8:00 AM–4:00 PM

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For more information, please contact:
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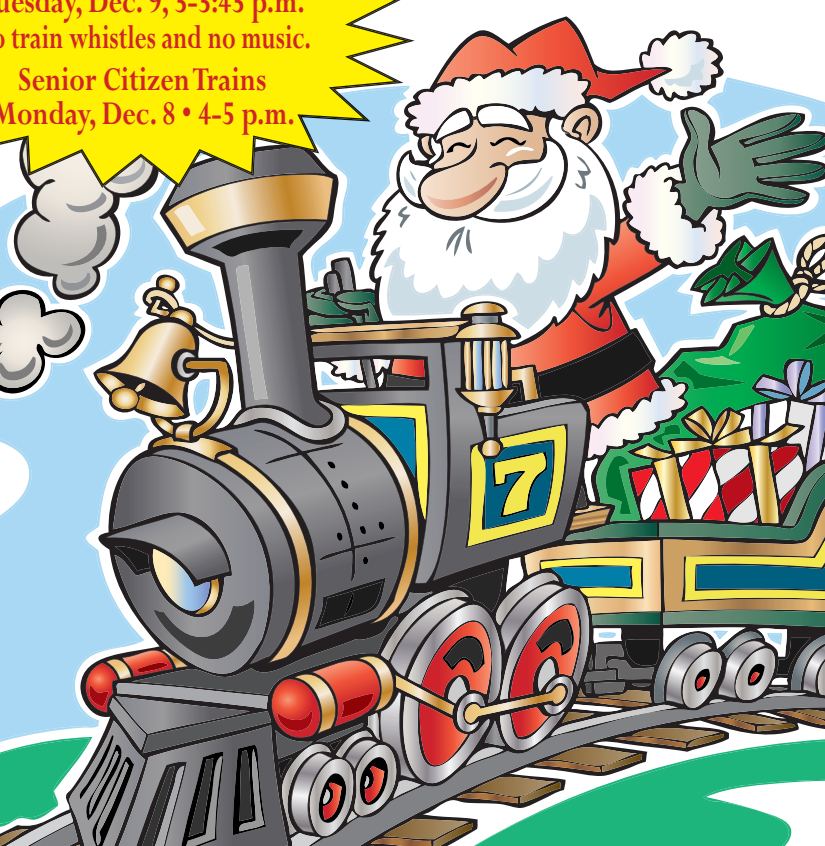
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