



Full-time photographer Ian Riley has recently relocated to Warren County, having picked this area from 16 other counties. He can be reached for your business or wedding photography needs at (615) 838-0460.



Sean Graham has started Tennessee Rideshare for your transportation needs. He can give you a lift around town or outside the county and can be reached at 259-7000.

Business Pulse

Continued from page 3C

But wait ... we now have the option of Tennessee Rideshare, a new taxi service operated by Sean Graham. Sean is available to take you around town, or on trips outside Warren County to faraway places like Nashville, Cookeville and Murfreesboro.

"I started this because I know it's a service that's needed," said Sean. "I worked at Yorozu for over four years and I know there are a lot of people who need a ride. I've been doing this about a month and so far it's been pretty decent. I've had some slow days and I've had some days where I'm running all over the place and could use another driver."

Sean said he did his homework before opening the taxi service. He said he did research on other taxi companies that once operated in Warren County to determine why they failed. He said it came down to the fact the rates were too high.

"You can't charge a big-city price in a smaller market like this," said

Sean. "People don't have the money to pay for it."

Seans says his rates are affordable. He charges a \$3 base rate then \$1 for every mile after that. There is no charge per minute, as some services assess, and there are no other hidden fees.

Sean says his taxi passengers are treated to free wi-fi that works off the hotspot in his phone. They are also given complimentary bottled water. He drives a Honda Pilot, which is comfortable and roomy enough to fit six passengers.

Interestingly enough, Sean used to work as a full-time dog trainer when he lived in Houston, Texas. He had enough business to earn a comfortable living.

"Then 2008 hit," said Sean. "I went from a full schedule to one customer a week."

Tennessee Rideshare is open seven days a week. It's available Sunday thru Thursday from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Friday and Saturday from 6 a.m. to midnight.

"I was open 24 hours a day, but I wasn't getting enough rest," said Sean.

Tennessee Rideshare can be reached at 259-7000. Sean says texting him is a great way to make contact. That way he has your address in his phone and doesn't have to scramble for a pencil to write it down while he's on the road. If you like the old-fashioned way, you can also call that phone number.

**A PORTRAIT OF HAPPINESS**

Ian Riley is a relatively new Warren County resident who has a neat story about how he came to call this community home. Ian and his wife were living in Nashville when they made the decision it was time to leave the city and its many headaches. Their options for relocating were wide open.

"We looked at 16 different counties, really anything within an hour and a half radius of Nashville," said Ian. "I grew up in the Sevierville/ Gatlinburg area so I missed the mountains. We wanted to get out where we could see the stars and get away from all the sirens. We

love this place. We like Main Street and we like hiking and the outdoors. Kayaking is also great. It's turned out really well."

That testimonial aside, I'm featuring Ian in this column because he's a full-time photographer. He can do wedding photography, which always seems in demand, but his specialty is commercial photography.

Ian works with a number of clients, such as real estate agents and medical professionals, to highlight their businesses. This can entail taking a picture of a doctor and patient after successful surgery to promote a hospital, or it can mean taking many pictures of a home for a real estate listing.

"All my work is done on location," said Ian. "I still do a lot of work in the Nashville area. I commute a couple days a week, but I'd like to develop more business here."

Ian said he did one photo shoot for a wheelchair manufacturer where he took pictures at several places around town to

show the wheelchair's versatility. This included taking pictures at a YMCA and during a shopping trip.

"It was a logistically complex project," said Ian.

If you're in need of a professional photographer for a wedding or a business project, you can reach Ian at (615) 838-0460. His website is [ianriley.com](http://ianriley.com).

**STATEWIDE BUSINESS ON RISE**

Tennessee's economic health appears to be in good shape and doesn't need blood pressure medication just yet. According to figures released last week by the state, the number of new businesses continues to soar.

In the fourth quarter of 2017, the state reports there were 8,915 business filings, according to Secretary of State Tre Hargett. That's an 8.5 percent increase from the fourth quarter of 2016.

Hargett says initial business filings have now had positive year-over-year growth for 25 consecutive quarters.

"These numbers show that business leaders continue to invest in Tennessee," said Hargett. "The Tennessee General Assembly and Gov. Haslam have created a welcoming business climate that will serve us well in the years ahead."


The state's unemployment remained historically low at 3.3 percent in December. Tennessee's unemployment rate remains well below the current national average of 4.1 percent.

State revenues for the current fiscal year are up 3.8 percent. The national economy is also experiencing solid growth with new jobs and housing starts, Hargett said.

**THAT'S ALL FOLKS**

The editors of Business Pulse have started a new tip line where you can report tips 24 hours a day. If you suspect any type of business activity in your area, report it via email to [editor@southernstandard.com](mailto:editor@southernstandard.com).

Tips can be made anonymously, although I'll probably be able to see your name in my inbox.



## MEMBER EARLY VOTING

Saturday, March 10 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. members unable to attend the annual meeting may vote early at the following locations:

- McMinnville Corporate Office - 311 N. Chancery Street
- Sparta Office - 502 Ben Lomand Drive
- Tracy City Office - 67 Main Street
- Spencer Auxillary Gym - Across from Van Buren High School
- Hillsboro Homecoming Association Building - 7926 Hillsboro Hwy.
- Beechgrove, Noah Community Club - 165 Noah Road, Manchester

**We Look Forward to Seeing You!**

# Trump's proposed tariffs prompt strong reactions

**BEIJING (AP)** — China has warned that U.S. President Donald Trump's vow to impose high tariffs on steel and aluminum would have a "huge impact" on the global trading order and said Beijing would work with other nations to protect its interests.

A Commerce Ministry official said late Friday that Trump's plan to levy tariffs of 25 percent on steel and 10 percent on aluminum would "seriously damage multilateral trade mechanisms represented by the World Trade Organization and will surely have huge impact on normal international trade order."

"If the final measures of the United States hurt Chinese interests, China will work with other affected countries in taking measures to safeguard its own rights and interests," Wang Hejun, head of the ministry's trade remedy and investigation bureau, said in a statement on the ministry's website.

Chinese leaders have threatened in the past to retaliate if Trump raises trade barriers, but now need to weigh whether to back up those threats with action and risk jeopardizing U.S. market access for smartphones and other exports that matter more to their economy than metals.

"China will definitely respond. It doesn't want to be seen as weak. But it will be relatively restrained," said economist Louis Kuijs of Oxford Economics.

"They don't want to be seen as a party that is wrecking the international trading system."

## SOUTHLAND

### BRICK & BLOCK

**Ronnie Simmons**

700 Ordway Street  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129  
Cell: 931-212-5252  
Office: 615-893-7146 Fax: 615-893-0110

[ronnie.southlandbb@gmail.com](mailto:ronnie.southlandbb@gmail.com)

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## NOTICE

### 2016 CITY TAXPAYERS

Beginning March 1, an additional penalty of 19 ½ percent will be added to the 2016 property taxes. Final collection date at City Hall is March 23, 2018, after which they will be turned over to Clerk & Master for collection.

Payment must be received at the City Recorder's Office (City Hall) by March 23, 2018. No exceptions. Postmarks will not be accepted.

Shirley Durham  
City Recorder

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Global stock markets fell sharply Friday over worries of a possible trade war following Trump's announcement.

Trump thumbed his nose Friday at the concerns over rising trade tensions and higher prices for U.S. consumers, tweeting that "trade wars are good, and easy to win. Example, when we are down \$100 billion with a certain country and they get cute, don't trade anymore - we win big. It's easy!"

Beijing has accused Trump of undermining global trade regulation by taking action over steel, technology policy and other disputes under U.S. law instead of through the World Trade Organization.

Chinese officials have appealed to the White House since last March to avoid hurting both sides by disrupting aluminum trade.

Their tone hardened after Trump launched a probe in August of whether Beijing improperly pressures companies to hand over technology and in January raised duties on Chinese solar modules and washing machines.