

Man to plead to hiring immigrants

BEAN STATION, TENN. (AP) — The owner of a Tennessee meatpacking plant where a federal immigration raid took more than 90 people into custody has agreed to plead guilty to employing unauthorized immigrants.

News outlets report James Brantley also agreed to plead guilty to tax evasion and wire fraud after the Southeastern Provision meatpacking plant in Bean Station was raided April 5. Civil rights activists have said the raid may have

been the biggest employment crackdown under President Donald Trump's administration.

Court records show Brantley dodged nearly \$1.3 million in federal payroll taxes over the past decade. A plea agreement

shows Brantley withdrew cash to pay some workers.

The charges listed in Brantley's plea agreement carry a maximum sentence of up to 30 years in prison and restitution. Sentencing hasn't been set.

Sunday in the Bible Belt

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Oasis Church is situated in downtown McMinnville on East Main Street near First Nation Bank. The building was vacant before pastor Steve Breedlove bought it and started Oasis in 2008.

Across the street is Hotpoint, which is the youth building. Oasis is a non-denominational church, not beholden to one particular doctrine. According to Clark, Paul preaching Christ crucified is their basis.

The church is untraditional in many other ways. It doesn't believe in dictating dress code and is unconcerned about outward appearance (tattoos, facial hair, clothing choice, etc.) of those who attend services. Communion takes place quarterly and is open to anyone who has accepted Christ into their heart. Additionally, the church does not meet Sunday nights so people can spend time with their families or visit other churches.

"I think our position is it's a place to come and be loved, not judged," said Clark. "Pastor Breedlove and I try to



Oasis Church is located at 213 East Main Street.

present the gospel in a way that is simple and easily understood, but at the same time, you've got a lot of people who have different denominational backgrounds with a lot of hurt, stress, and anxiety and it's our job to help find ways to alleviate that pres-

sure."

As for a typical Sunday service, Sunday school starts at 9 a.m. followed by announcements, praise and worship and a message delivered by pastor Breedlove. The service ends with a dismissal prayer around 11 a.m.

Additionally, youth minister Jacob Acre, along with his wife, Jade, have worked hard to transform Hotpoint into a place teens can learn, worship and spend time together. With a coffee bar, couch, TV and pool table, teens say it's great to have a fun place to hang out and learn about God.

"I think we can come here and find Christ, but we can also find each other," explained Acre. "A lot of times the church teaches you to rely on it, but we've learned we don't have to rely on anything but Christ, but also in loving Christ, we've learned to love each other like a family."

Added Clark, "Oasis is a place of hope for sinners or saints, a place to heal, get nourishment and go back into the battle. Everyone is welcome."

For information, contact Clark at 931-224-4349.

Applications accepted for Citizens Police Academy

BY **LISA HOBBS**
Reporter for the Southern Standard
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

If you'd like to learn more about the day-to-day duties of a McMinnville police officer, there's a class for you.

Applications are being accepted for this year's Citizens Police Academy. The class begins Tuesday, Sept. 18, but applications must be submitted by Sept. 10.

The sessions are free and have been offered by McMinnville Police Department since 2007. With space limited, enrollment is offered on a first-come, first-serve basis.

The seven-week course offers hands-on experience about the daily activities associated with law enforcement in McMinnville. The classes are an effort to bridge the relationship gap between police officers and the citizens they serve. McMinnville Police Department officers are the instructors.

"The academy has become a main part of McMinnville Police



McMinnville's Citizens Police Academy offers a chance to shoot a gun on a firing range.

Department's community policing effort," said police Deputy Chief Mike Lane. "We have fun offering the classes and citizens have fun taking them. It has definitely bolstered the relationship between citizens of our community and the police."

Each Tuesday night at 6 p.m. beginning Sept. 18, classes will be offered. On the agenda for this session are defensive tactics, fire-

arms, criminal investigation, narcotics investigation, courtroom trial, and a response to active shooter (SWAT) session. Participants will also have the opportunity to experience a firing range and a ride-along with a police officer during their regular shift. Range day will be on a Saturday.

"The class usually fills up fast," said Lane. "We can only take about 20 so

get those applications in as soon as possible."

Applications may be picked up at McMinnville Police Department on Red Road, or by visiting the police department's website. Visit www.mcminnville.tenn.gov, click on "departments" and select "police." On the police department's site, click on "Citizens Police Academy." For more information, contact Lane at 473-3808.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, AUG. 19

The Central High School Class of 1969 will have a planning meeting for its 50-year reunion at 3 p.m. at Mt. Leo Church of Christ. All members are urged to attend. For more information, call 668-3096 or 668-3488.

Friendship Baptist Church in Rock Island is having Friends and Family Day at 10:45 a.m. with a pot luck lunch to follow. Everyone is welcome.

The Asa and Elizabeth Tate Gross annual reunion will be at Pearls of Christ Church on Highway 56 near Irving College. Pot luck lunch will be at 1 p.m. and everyone is welcome.

TUESDAY, AUG. 21

Free clothing giveaway at Westwood Church of Christ is 8 to 10 a.m.

Magness Library will be closed Aug. 21-22. The library is changing to the Tennessee State Consortium for Libraries, called VERSO. Those two days will be used for staff training and general maintenance.

The Warren County Republican Party will be having its monthly meeting at 6:30 p.m. at Warren County Administrative Offices. Special speakers include Rush Bricken, Beth Campbell, Marsha Blackburn and Lisa Eyster for the Bill Lee campaign. Light refreshments will be served.

SATURDAY, AUG. 25

Project Graduation will hold a car wash at O'Reilly Auto Parts on North Chancery Street from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Donations requested.

Decoration Day will be at Long Cemetery on Highway 30 in Van Buren County. The business meeting starts at 11 a.m. and there will be a covered dish luncheon at noon. Donations for upkeep can be mailed to Joe Moffitt, 2322 Shangri La Lane.

The 52nd annual Beersheba Springs Arts and Crafts Festival will be Aug. 25-26 at the Beersheba Springs Assembly Grounds in Beersheba Springs. The festival is open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

Hills Creek/ Center Hill Cemetery is having a meeting at 6 p.m. to elect officers and organize committee members.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The McGee Reunion is taking place at Shellsford Baptist Church fellowship hall on Sunday, Aug. 26 at noon. Bring a covered dish, pictures and anything you would like to share.

There will be an American Red Cross blood drive Tuesday, Aug. 28 from 2 to 6 p.m. at Caney Fork Electric Auditorium, 920 Smithville Hwy.

Magness Library Book Sale will take place until Aug. 31 with a selection of old books, cookbooks and lots of children's books.

Free Clothing Day at East End Church of Christ on Sparta Street will take place on the second Thursday of each month from 9 a.m. to noon.

The annual Holder Reunion will be held Sept. 2 at Centertown CIC. Doors open at 11 a.m. Bring a covered dish.

There will be a fishing tournament for Project Graduation on Monday, Sept. 3 at Cotten's Marina, 1967 Rock Island Rd. from 6 a.m. until noon. Registration is \$50 per boat and registration starts at 4:30 a.m. All proceeds after payout go to benefit the class of 2019 Project Graduation. For more information, call Leanne Grissom at 931-212-9501.

The Warren County Retired Teachers Association will have a meeting Thursday, Sept. 6 at 10 a.m. at the Magnolia Room at the Warren County Annex. Special speaker Kelly Clarkson from the Upper Cumberland SHIPPS program will be discussing info concerning Medicare enrollment and updates. Refreshments will be served and all retired teachers are invited.

Seatbelt Checkpoint scheduled Aug. 31

The Tennessee Highway Patrol will be conducting a Seatbelt Checkpoint in Warren County on Aug. 31 on State Highway 287.

Recognizing that an alarmingly high number of vehicle occupants killed in fatal crashes were unrestrained, the Tennessee Highway Patrol has elected to create an enforcement campaign aimed at drastically reducing the number of

unrestrained drivers and occupants.

Troopers will be on active patrol observing for unrestrained drivers and occupants of motor vehicles.

The Tennessee Highway Patrol has found seatbelt checkpoints to be an effective means of enforcing seatbelt and child restraint laws of Tennessee while ensuring the protection of all motorists.

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