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LIFE AND MUSICAL DUO

Couple navigates musical success from their Spring Hill home



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IMPROVING QUALITY OF LIFE

Local business helps improve hearing and communications



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Wendy Moten and David Santos have called Spring Hill home for 22 years. Photography by Michael Tedesco

NEVER GIVING UP

PAM WINDSOR

Wendy Moten and David Santos have been making incredible music for decades, each forging their own unique path in the industry.

She's a solo artist who appeared on "The Voice," toured with Julio Iglesias, performs on the Grand Ole Opry, and is a member of the Nashville-based Time Jumpers. David, an exceptional bass player, has toured with Billy Joel, John Fogerty, Crosby, Stills & Nash, Melissa Etheridge, and others over the years.

Their home base for 22 years has been Spring Hill, but their work has taken them across the globe.

Wendy got her musical start in Memphis, where her dad was a pastor. She sang in church, then later in talent contests, never imagining she'd make a living as a singer. But she soon had a record deal.

"I was signed in 1993 during the Whitney Houston era. Every label wanted one, so I was EMI's Whitney Houston. You had Whitney, Celine Dion, Mariah Carey, and I was No. 4, in how the

industry saw me."

By the late 90s, as music trends shifted and hip hop and rap replaced Pop/R&B, a new opportunity emerged when Julio Iglesias found her.

"He was looking for a duet partner," Wendy recalls. "I was going to stay for a year, and it turned into 15 years. I got to see the world, I made crazy money, but I also worked hard. I had to sing in four languages. But I wanted the challenge, and I got to learn from a great artist."

David grew up in Tampa, where he started playing bass at a young age. He played in local disco bands and jazz groups, and realized he wanted to aim higher. He attended the Berklee College of Music in Boston, then headed to New York.

"I played every gig imaginable from the subway with-a-hat-out to bar gigs at four in the morning," he says.

At one point, someone asked if he'd consider playing weddings.

"I said, you mean with a tuxedo and all that stuff? Nah, I didn't move to New York to do that."

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Photography by Michael Tedesco

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But when he realized he could make good money, he reconsidered.

“At one wedding, Mark Rivera was in the band, and he was the sax player with Billy Joel (which I ended up doing later),” he says. “Mark got me in this other band, which is where I met Wendy. So, my life changed from being this broke musician to working with an amazing band of superstars and meeting my soulmate overnight.”

That band included musicians from Ringo Starr’s All-Starr Band, as well as Wendy, then a young up-and-comer.

“This band included Billy Preston, Mark Farnier, Randy Bachmann, and Lou Gramm, (Wendy), and David was the bass player,” she says. “And I didn’t realize they were all actual icons.”

David explained that these were legendary players.

“We weren’t dating then, but he couldn’t have me not realizing who they were. So, we started talking, and the next thing you know, that was 30 years ago.”

Their meeting in that band proved transformative for both.

“I did ‘Billy Joel Storytellers,’ which you can see on YouTube,” David says. “That was my first arrival at that level of touring with those people and making big money. Meanwhile, I was with Wendy, and she was off doing amazing things, too.”

As their careers soared, the arrival of COVID brought unexpected changes. Wendy began strategizing how to revive her solo career. The Voice” offered the perfect opportunity. She auditioned

and made it, but three weeks before the show’s finale, she fell over a monitor and broke both her arms.

As soon as she got to the emergency room, she received several phone calls, the first from Vince Gill.

“I hadn’t even seen the doctor yet, and he was like, you can’t leave. You have to stay on the show.”

So, broken arms and all, Wendy returned.

“I thought, I can’t be the lady who fell. I’ve got to be the lady who came back. I figured if I could do this with two broken arms on national TV, I could continue to make my dreams come true.”

Now, after years on the road pursuing their individual projects, Wendy and David are finding more time to work together. In 2023, they released a song called “Don’t Give Up.”

“We wrote that in 2009,” she says. “We were trying to encourage each other not to give up.”

Through it all, they’ve been each other’s strongest supporter.

“When I met David, I was a recording artist already, and I always understood what a great artist he is. I didn’t want to be controlled, and I didn’t want to control him. Some people are afraid you’re going to grow faster or do more than they are, and we chose not to be those people. We’ve always encouraged each other’s dreams.”

They’re still doing it, with much more to come.

For more information, visit Wendymoten.com, and find David M. Santos on Facebook and Instagram.



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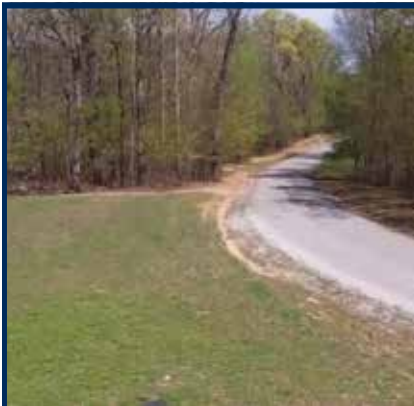
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Listening to your Gut: A Conversation with
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Our guest speaker (left), Elizabeth Lindsey, M.D.,
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CHANGING LIVES

JASON ZASKY

Dr. Elizabeth Welch has worked to help those with hearing loss for nearly three decades.

“I just love being able to change the quality of people’s lives,” she says. “And I love the relationships with our patients. We’re not just here to sell a product or service; when you walk into our office, you feel like you’re walking into a family.”

Welch owns HearTN. For a number of years, it was called Hearing Services of Franklin, but when she began opening offices to serve other communities, it made sense to change the name. HearTN now has offices in Franklin, Spring Hill, Chattanooga, Dickson, Nolensville, Tullahoma, and Trenton, Georgia.

“We saw some of these smaller, more rural communities just didn’t have quality hearing healthcare,” Welch explains. “So, we decided it was a good move for us.”

Welch and her staff offer a wide range of services, all geared toward educating and equipping people with the tools to protect and maintain proper hearing. Often, when you think of hearing loss, the first thing that comes to mind is older patients who might need hearing aids, but HearTN serves people of all ages with a variety of needs.

“I like to tell people hearing loss is not a respecter of age,” Welch says. “Yes, it’s more common as we get older. I think the statistic is one-in-three when you’re 65 years old, but it’s also one-in-twenty in school-age kids. And that doesn’t mean hearing loss can’t be corrected with surgery or with tubes in the ears. So, we deal with all ages.

Welch recommends a baseline hearing test for everyone. While kids usually get tested in school, once people enter adulthood, they can go for decades without having another one.

“A baseline hearing test is always a good idea, no matter how

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Dr. Welch tests patients of all ages for hearing related issues. Photography by Michael Tedesco

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old you are. And most insurances cover a hearing test, many of them annually.

For children in school, testing beyond the basic hearing test can determine whether kids who might be struggling in the classroom have auditory processing disorder.

“We see a lot of that in school-age children,” says Welch. “It’s like, ‘I hear everything you’re saying, I have completely normal hearing, but it’s just processing, it’s just not clicking.’ So, a lot of times parents think their kids have hearing loss when, in fact, they hear just fine; it’s the way they’re processing that information. We do that kind of testing, as well.”

HearTN can help with many other things as well.

“We do management for tinnitus, which is ringing in the head or noises in the head, basically. We see a lot of that with the musician population here in the Nashville area. We do musician monitors to help protect their hearing, we do noise plugs for hunters or spouses who snore, swim plugs for children who have tubes in their ears, and we do balance testing for people who have vertigo, along with treatment.”

With regard to the older population, Welch notes there’s a strong correlation between hearing loss and cognitive decline. And when you don’t treat the hearing loss, the rate of cognitive decline is increased.

And for patients who need hearing aids, technology has come a long way in making them smaller, more efficient, and user-friendly.

“Hearing aids are so tiny now, you can hardly see them,” says Welch. “And most of them have AI features in them now, deep neural network (we call it DNN), so processing is so much better today than it was even five or six years ago. Almost all of them are rechargeable today, and most of them are Bluetooth compatible, so you can listen to your phone.”

Welch is passionate about helping people hear better and doing it with a dedicated, caring staff that feels the same way.

“As a business owner, I couldn’t be more blessed with the staff I have. They are ‘my people.’ I love them and I trust them. I get to go to work every day with people I genuinely enjoy working with.”

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EXCITING LOCAL EVENTS

WILLIAMSON COUNTY MASTER GARDNER'S ASSOCIATION GARDEN FESTIVAL AND PLANT SALE

SATURDAY, MAY 2, 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM
THE GROUNDS OF WILLIAMSON COUNTY AG EXPO PARK –
WEST SIDE 4215 LONG LANE, FRANKLIN, wcmga.net

Plants on sale will include perennials, annuals, vegetables, herbs, and more. Many plants grown by local master gardeners. The event will also feature a garden shed area with new and gently used items for your home and garden use, vendors and food trucks, educational speakers, arts and crafts, and a children's area. Come join us for this annual fundraiser for Williamson County Master Gardeners.

TENNESSEE RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL

MAY 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24, 25, 30 AND 31, 10AM – 6PM
2124 NEWCASTLE RD. ARRINGTON, TN
tnrenfest.com

Delight in the streets of Covington Glen, the outdoor renaissance marketplace, shopping the talented artisans' exceptional wares. Immerse in song, laughter, and amazement as jesters, minstrels, jugglers, and magicians demonstrate their unique skills. Listen to the tall tales of pirates and prepare to watch the royal joust. After joining the Queen's Court and touring the outside Castle Gwynn Grounds, feast on the variety of flavors, aromas and tastes from merchants and vendors.

GARY BURR'S LAUREL CANYON BAND

WEDNESDAY MAY 13, 7PM
THE FRANKLIN THEATRE, DOWNTOWN FRANKLIN
Franklintheatre.com

Laurel Canyon is an acoustic trio of celebrated singers, songwriters and producers who expertly perform the definitive tribute to the music of Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young. The show is performed by Grammy Award-winning writer/producer Mark Hudson, who co-wrote Aerosmith's Grammy Award-winning hit "Living on the Edge", veteran singer/songwriter Mark Mirando, and Hall of Fame songwriter, Gary Burr, who is a member of the esteemed Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame and has written fourteen number one hits.

FRANKLIN RODEO & PARADE

SATURDAY DAY MAY 9, PARADE, DOWNTOWN FRANKLIN
WEDNESDAY MAY 13 - SATURDAY MAY 16 RODEO,
WILLIAMSON COUNTY AG EXPO PARK
franklinrodeo.com

Presented by the Franklin Noon Rotary Club, the annual event kicks off with the parade in historic downtown Franklin. This electrifying event brings the community together in a vibrant celebration of Western heritage and small-town spirit. The event moves to the Ag Expo Park and continues the annual traditional Rodeo nightly. Visit the website for schedule and tickets.

TOUCH-A-TRUCK

FRIDAY MAY 15, 5PM-6PM
JIM WARREN PARK, 705 BOYD MILL AVENUE, FRANKLIN
franklintn.gov

Trucks, equipment, and vehicles of all shapes and sizes will gather at Jim Warren Park where children of all ages, with parent supervision, will be welcome to touch, climb-on, and explore these amazing pieces of equipment. Fire trucks, police cars, tractors, back hoes, tow trucks, and more! "No Horn Hour" will be from 5pm-6pm for the little ones. Food trucks will also be available.





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Picnic Pasta Salad

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 POUND ROTINI PASTA
- 1 ENGLISH CUCUMBER
- 2 BELL PEPPERS
- 10 OUNCES GRAPE TOMATOES
- 1/2 RED ONION
- 2 TABLESPOONS FRESH CHOPPED PARSLEY
- 1/4 CUP CRUMBLED FETA CHEESE
- 1 BOTTLE (16 OUNCES) ITALIAN DRESSING
- 1/4 TEASPOON SALT
- 1/4 TEASPOON FRESHLY CRACKED BLACK PEPPER



PREPARATION:

- Cook pasta according to package instructions. Drain in colander and rinse with cool water; drain well.
- Slice cucumber into half-moons, chop bell peppers, halve tomatoes, thinly slice red onion and chop parsley. Set vegetables and parsley aside.
- Transfer drained pasta to large bowl. Add chopped vegetables, parsley and feta cheese.
- Pour dressing over pasta salad and toss until evenly coated. Add salt and pepper then refrigerate until ready to eat.

Cooked rotini is mixed with fresh veggies, tossed with Italian dressing and topped with crumbled feta cheese for a zesty complement to your favorite al fresco meals.

Visit Culinary.net to find more ways to round out a perfect picnic lunch.

Photo courtesy of Unsplash



MAY IS MELANOMA AWARENESS MONTH

PROTECT YOUR SKIN

PROTECT YOUR HEALTH



Skin cancer is the most common cancer in the U.S., and melanoma is one of the deadliest forms. The good news? It's largely preventable with proper sun protection and early detection.

KNOW THE FACTS

- One in five Americans will develop skin cancer by age 70.
- Just one blistering sunburn in childhood doubles the risk of melanoma later in life.
- Daily sunscreen use reduces the risk of developing melanoma by 50%.

PROTECT YOUR SKIN THIS MAY

- Apply SPF 50+ Daily – Even on cloudy days, UV rays can cause damage.
- Reapply Every Two Hours – Especially after sweating or swimming.
- Wear Protective Clothing – Hats, sunglasses, and UV-blocking fabrics help shield your skin.
- Schedule a Skin Check with your Board Certified Dermatologist – Early detection saves lives.

OUR TOP SPF PICK

- HydroBoost Sunscreen SPF 50 – A dermatologist recommended, lightweight, and hydrating sunscreen that offers broad-spectrum protection without a greasy feel.
- Don't wait—take action to protect your skin and spread awareness about melanoma prevention.



For more information, please go to harpethvalleydermatology.com or call us at **615-905-8083**.



Dr. Benjamin Bashline



Dr. Megan Morrison



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