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THE LEAF-CHRONICLE

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Elmo at the Opry

Muppet, fellow Sesame Street star Abby Cadabby share love for country

Marcus K. Dowling Nashville Tennessean | USA TODAY NETWORK – TENNESSEE

As part of the Grand Ole Opry’s continuing 100th anniversary celebration, on Aug. 14, two of the most unique and youngest entertainers to ever grace the Opry House stage were special guests. • Fresh from “Sesame Street” to Music City, 4-year-old Abby Cadabby and her 3½-year-old best friend, Elmo, debuted during an edition of Opry Country Classics. • Abby performed a duet of Loretta Lynn’s 1971 hit “You’re Lookin’ at Country” with the late country legend’s granddaughter, Tayla Lynn, while singer Lauren Alaina joined Elmo to perform “Road Less Traveled.” • “Music is everywhere and the more we interact with it, the more magical it is,” said Abby Cadabby.

In their country era? Abby Cadabby, Elmo join country singers on stage

Alaina and Tayla Lynn have joined Chris Stapleton on the list of country singers who have performed with Abby Cadabby and Elmo over the past three weeks.

Grand Ole Opry members including Garth Brooks, Johnny Cash, Randy Travis and Carrie Underwood have also appeared on “Sesame Street” over the decades.

On a recent episode, Stapleton performed “You’ve Got a Friend in Music”

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“Sesame Street’s” Abby Cadabby performs Aug. 14 with Tayla Lynn at Grand Ole Opry.

TOP: “Sesame Street” star Elmo performs with Lauren Alaina at Grand Ole Opry.

PHOTOS BY NICOLE HESTER/THE TENNESSEAN

NY nonprofit wiping debt for 73K in TN

Medical relief totals \$142M

Beth Warren Nashville Tennessean | USA TODAY NETWORK – TENNESSEE

Nashville residents who open their mailboxes to find a white envelop from Undue Medical Debt may think it’s a scam — but think again.

Allison Sesso, president and CEO of Undue, said the non-profit organization based in New York, sent letters in August to an estimated 73,000 women and men across Tennessee. In total, Undue is wiping away \$142 million in medical debt across the Volunteer State.

“This is a surprise letter,” Sesso said. “There’s no application. You can’t apply for this debt relief.”

“We find your debt and then we apply the donated dollars and then we let you know that you qualified.”

Medical debt is a widespread issue impacting an estimated 100 million Americans.

Since it’s inception 11 years ago, the nonprofit, originally named RIP Medical Debt, has sent letters out to Americans with medical debt in all 50 states.

“We’ve actually gotten rid of \$22 billion of medical



Sesso

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2 Clarksville men ID’d in fatal shootout

Two others arrested in connection with deaths

Kenya Anderson Clarksville Leaf-Chronicle | USA TODAY NETWORK – TENNESSEE

Two Clarksville men are dead in a shootout Aug. 12 outside a Japanese restaurant, according to Clarksville Police Department.

Clarksville police identified Aug. 13 the two victims as Noah William Peterson, 18, and Makhi Charon Richardson, 24, both of Clarksville.

Police arrested and charged two people in connection with the shootings, charging them with tampering with evidence.

Clarksville Police responded to two calls a little after 7 p.m., one shooting in the parking lot of Mizu Japanese Cuisine at 1525 Wilma Rudolph Blvd., where they found one victim. A few minutes later, they received another call about a second male victim with gunshot wounds.

An investigation revealed that the incident began as a planned meeting between two groups, which escalated into a shootout, with one person from each group, Peterson and Richardson, shot and killed, police said in a news release.

Harvin John Lee James, 20, and Antario Jameer Hyrne, 21, were booked into the Montgomery County Jail and charged with tampering with evidence.

Police respond to call

Once officers arrived at the scene Aug. 12, a male victim with a gunshot wound was found and officers began performing CPR until medical personnel arrived and he was transported to Tennova Healthcare, where he died.

A second 911 call was received from a woman about 10 minutes later on Cabot Cove who said someone was on their way to her residence with a gunshot wound.

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