

We're looking to install our NEXT GENERATION gutter guard on your home!

**LeafFilter**  
GUTTER PROTECTION

CALL TODAY FOR A FREE INSPECTION! **615-671-7051**

**15% OFF** + **10% OFF**  
Your Entire Purchase\* Seniors + Military  
Expires: 12/31/2025  
++ We offer financing that fits your budget!!

**www.LeafFilter.com/grop | Promo: 364**

+ See Representative for full warranty details. \*One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. 1 Subject to credit approval. Call for details AR 366920925, AZ ROC 344027, CA 1035795, CT HIC.0671520, DC 420223000087, FL CBC056678, IA C127230, ID RCE-51604, LA 559544, MA 213292, MD MHIC111225, MI 262300331, 262300330, 262300329, 262300328, 262300318, 262300173, MN IR810524, MT 266192, ND 47304, NE 50145-24, NJ 13VH13285000, NM 408693, NV 86990, OR 218294, PA PA179643, RI GC-41354, TN 10981, UT 10783658-5501, VA 2705169445, VT 174.0000871, WA LEAFLH763PG, WI No. 537-DCFRR, WV WV056912.

**BEFORE** **AFTER** **FULL SERVICE GUTTER PROTECTION**

# THE TENNESSEAN

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2025 | TENNESSEAN.COM



PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

## Vanderbilt cancels diversity program

Event welcomed prospective students during campus visit

Rachel Wegner

Nashville Tennessean  
USA TODAY NETWORK - TENNESSEE

A Vanderbilt University program for prospective students from diverse backgrounds was unexpectedly canceled.

Medley of Students and Ideas Connecting, or MO-SAIC, was an annual event that offered overnight campus stays for prospective students who had already gained admission to the private Nashville school. The student-led group hosted students each spring in conjunction with Anchor Day, an annual campus visit open to all admitted students. The university's decision comes as President Donald Trump and his administration continue to pressure schools nationwide to scrap diversity, equity and inclusion, or DEI, efforts.

MOSAIC welcomed more than 150 students to campus each year, according to Vanderbilt senior Ishaan Gadiyar. He served as the co-chair and president of MOSAIC and said the cancellation, first reported by student newspaper The Vanderbilt Hustler, came as a shock to him.

Gadiyar said he and his co-leaders found out about the change during a meeting in mid-November.

See **DIVERSITY**, Page 13A



Students walk past the Faye and Joe Wyatt Center at Vanderbilt University. The university has ended a diversity program. STEPHANIE AMADOR/THE TENNESSEAN

## 5 games for Pavia's Heisman case

SPORTS, 1B



Jean Campbell has her photo taken in front of one of the Christmas trees as other visitors enjoy the decorations at the Tennessee Governor's Residence in Nashville on Dec. 12. The theme is "Light of the World." PHOTOS BY NICOLE HESTER/THE TENNESSEAN

## Governor's mansion decked for holiday

Reservations being accepted for self-guided tours

Vivian Jones

Nashville Tennessean | USA TODAY NETWORK - TENNESSEE

Tennessee's Governor's Residence is radiant with the glow of Christmas.

Volunteers organized by first lady Maria Lee's office planned and executed the annual elaborate Christmas spectacle. This year, the theme is "Light of the World," welcoming visitors to "behold the magnificence and splendor of Christ."

Every detail is designed to "point to the majesty of Jesus," organizers said. A towering Christmas tree, framed by two golden pillars, casts a warm, twinkling glow across the foyer. Nearby, the grand staircase is draped in golden orbs, shimmering stars and rich crimson bows.

A host of taper candles twinkle down the hallway toward the governor's office, leading to an alcove filled with a display of folksy string instruments called mountain dulcimers. Downstairs in Conservation Hall, Christmas trees have been decorated to represent nonprofit organizations based in East, Middle and West Tennessee.

The Tennessee Residence is open to the public for self-guided tours through Dec. 14. Tickets are free but must be reserved online for security purposes through the governor's office website.

The first lady's office requests visitors who are able to bring donations of canned goods, baby items, and personal hygiene supplies to share with nonprofit partners.



A nativity scene sits near a Christmas tree at the governor's mansion.



Geraldine Middleton walks in with Tena Starling to see the decorations. The residence is open to the public through Dec. 14.

## USDA approves Tennessee's waiver to ban SNAP candy, soda purchases

Vivian Jones

Nashville Tennessean  
USA TODAY NETWORK - TENNESSEE

Tennessee recipients of federal food aid may soon see new restrictions on what candy and soda they can purchase with the federal benefit.

The Department of Agriculture approved Dec. 10

Tennessee's application seeking to create new restrictions on what products will be covered by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, including banning junk food items like soda and candy.

Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins said the "Make America Healthy Again" initiative is designed to

See **SNAP**, Page 13A

### Subscriber-only eNewspaper

The eNewspaper is an electronic copy of your print newspaper. Enjoy every page by going to [tennessean.com/enewspaper](http://tennessean.com/enewspaper) or scan this code on your mobile device. You will also find late news and sports in the bonus sections. Check it out today!



Volume 121 | No. 292  
Subscribe 800-342-8237  
©2025 **\$3.49** Metro  
State pricing varies



0 49091 05606 5