

# HARDCORE

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“... Looking back, I probably started realizing I was depressed as early as sixth or seventh grade. Middle school was particularly hard for me. I was overweight. I was just a weird kid. I liked weird music. Nobody knew who The Clash was. People would be like, ‘What’s the Ramones?’” he said. “It kind of took me a long time to realize those things, but I didn’t actually start viewing my mental health as something legitimate until a couple of years into my relationship with my wife.”

Chancellor said “Hardcore Anxiety” — published and released by Oregon-based Microcosm Publishing in 2019 — discusses how he felt the punk and underground music scene was a support through his battles, then in turn “realizing how it’s not helping me.”

“At the end of that book, I decided to stop playing music,” Chancellor said. “... For my own health, I was like, ‘This is just not what I should do.’”

And for some time, Chancellor kept the tunes on hold and began making a name for himself as a graphic novelist.

He went on to release “Rock and Roll Terrorist: The Graphic Life of Shock Rocker GG Allin” — based on punk music’s most controversial cult figures that was active during the 1970s through the early 1990s — in 2020 before self-publishing “Summer Vacation” — detailing the story of fictional rock band Detention, made up of 40-something-year-old teachers, embarking on their first tour — in 2023.

Currently, Chancellor is promoting the release of his

newest work — “Hardcore Happiness: A Graphic Journey to Find Punk’s Positivity” — that was put out in June, which he describes as a standalone follow-up to “Hardcore Anxiety.”

“... (The book) picks up where that one left off,” he said, which starts the night before his wedding day in 2018. “I would kind of pitch it as how to kind of be an adult, or start a family, get married, do all these adult things but still stay connected to punk music and DIY (do-it-yourself) (scene).”

Chancellor said both works, especially the newest title, explore his personal thoughts of identity.

“It’s sort of that inner conflict of, ‘Am I a poser because I have a day job? Like, I have bills, I have responsibilities, I’m like a normal adult — does that make me not a punk anymore? Am I turning my back on that?’” Chancellor said. “... In punk music, what draws so many people to it is that, ‘Oh, this is a place for all the misfits, for the weirdos, for the freaks,’ and then when you’re in that, what happens when you’re in that and you still don’t feel like you found your place — like it wasn’t enough.”

But Chancellor has since discovered he is not the only one in the punk realm to have those feelings.

“... Still to this day, if somebody reaches out and says that they read any of my books and said, ‘Oh, I felt the exact same way,’ I’m always kind of shocked a little bit and humbled by that because I didn’t know that,” he said. “Everyone else I knew in my punk scene that were my friends, in my bands (seemed) liked they had it figured out. ... I didn’t feel that other people felt that way.”

Being able to have these

personal conversations had helped Chancellor develop deeper connections off the stage.

“The relationships that I’ve developed with some of my favorite bands have blossomed in a way that I never thought it would,” he said. “I just feel very blessed and lucky to say that some of my favorite bands are my peers; and that’s really, really cool.”

“I never expected that. I never expected anyone to really, truly identify with the story,” Chancellor said.

Though Chancellor has picked up the music again in some capacities, his mindset of the term “punk” has evolved since his self-exploration as an author.

“Punk is sort of what you make it. ... Punk is not a genre of music so much that it’s an attitude and an intention, rather,” he said. “... That intention, that creation and where you’re coming from is what kind of makes it punk rather than it being loud, or it being screaming or anything like that.”

And throughout this venture, Chancellor has been able to reflect on who he has become and what brings him purpose.

“... The biggest thing I’ve learned about myself is the competitive nature of writing — I don’t feel it,” he said. “Whereas I felt so competitive playing music and in bands .... And now I’m like, ‘That doesn’t matter. What does that serve?’”

“The books that I make and the work that I’m doing, I am now doing because I love doing it and it helps me,” Chancellor said.

“Hardcore Happiness: A Graphic Journey to Find Punk’s Positivity” is available for purchase at [microcosmpublishing.com](http://microcosmpublishing.com) and other online book distributors.

# PARADE

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said.

While the Parade offers prospective homebuyers to see available options, Hicks finds the event can inspire designs and ideas for current homeowners.

“... I think a lot of builders in town are also remodelers,” Hicks said. “... If you meet a guy and you like his house, it doesn’t mean you can’t do something similar to your own home as well.”

“... (The builders can discuss) flooring, and crown molding and just things that kind of set your house apart, especially when it comes to a custom home — like what makes this a custom home compared to something that (you) can design,” Hicks said.


Hicks finds the Parade provides a networking opportunity for both the public and the homeowners.

“When it comes to potential buyers or people who want to maybe ... remodel their home, hopefully they can come out with some ideas. I hope they meet the builders and realize that they’re easy to talk to and easy to work

with, and we can make our current home into a dream home or go out and build (their) dream home somewhere,” Hicks said.

“(For) the builders, they’re able to meet people in our community that are interested in homes, and kind of put it out there, and show their skills and show what they do.”

The featured homes will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays.



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Tara Nicole Ward  
Ward & Ward PLLC  
P.O. Box 151  
Hartford, KY 42347, Attorney

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Taylor Skaggs, Clerk  
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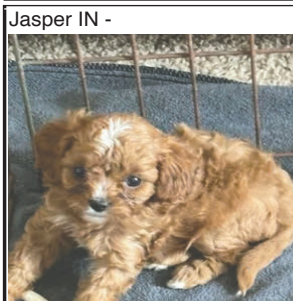
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