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QUOTE

"Healing is a matter of time, but it is sometimes also a matter of opportunity."

— Hippocrates

New Year Brings Winter Weather

Blair Just a Warning Shot, Area in Crosshairs for Friday Snow

BY BRAD SAM

brad@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (January 6) — Winter Storm Blair continued its trek east Monday, wreaking havoc from the central plains to the east coast.

After a stormy Sunday, residents of northwest Tennessee awoke to much colder temperatures and a dusting of flurries that lingered into the afternoon, but the heavy impacts stayed just to the north.

A sigh of relief (or frustration) as schools prepare to resume this week looks to be temporary as another system is expected to deliver Friday what Blair didn't.

See WINTER on Page 3

A TOTAL LOSS



The Etzel home was destroyed in the January 4 fire.

Paris Home Decimated by Fire

PARIS (January 4) — On Wednesday, a Henry County family lost their home following an accident that was perpetuated between a cat and a curtain. At approximately 3:44 p.m., the Oakland Volunteer Fire Department was dispatched to Oaklawn Estates Road in Paris for a structure fire. The home belonged to Samantha Etzel and her family.

In a social media post, Etzel said, "Yesterday we got home from doing Christmas. The girls brought all their stuff upstairs and were playing. Bray and I were cleaning. Our cat was on the window sill and when she jumped out she pushed the curtain into a candle we had placed on the coffee bar."

The children and animals were able to be evacuated as the homeowners attempted to put the fire out with a fire extinguisher. Unfortunately, the veracity of the flames could not be contained.

See FIRE on Page 3

Local West Tennessee Road Closures

There will be possible daytime or nighttime lane closures at various locations in Region 4 to make repairs or new installs on an as needed basis at various locations throughout the 21 counties.

District 47

Carroll County

SR-76 (US-79): The grading, drainage, noise walls, signals and paving on U.S. 79 (S.R. 76) from near S.R. 77 to near Cutlip Lane will cause lane closures throughout the project.

Meadowbrook Lane: On September 16, 2024, Meadowbrook Lane was closed.

Big Buck Road: On November 11, 2024, Big Buck Rd. was closed. A detour will be provided.

Carroll County

SR-22: The intersection improvements on SR 22 and Clyde Road at the Huntingdon Industrial Park entrance serving HG 2.0 will cause lane closures throughout the project.

SR-22: The intersection improvements on SR 22 and Lexington Street at the Huntingdon Industrial Park entrance serving Dynamix

See ROAD on Page 3

Carroll County Fire Chief Interviews Start Tuesday

HUNTINGDON (January 2) — On Tuesday, January 7, the Carroll County Rural Fire Department will begin the interviewing process for its new chief. Out of thirteen candidates, the County Fire Committee narrowed its selection to six candidates before one requested his name be removed from consideration. The five that will be interviewed on Tuesday are Jonathan Gaskins, John Fordon, Eric Dale Allen, Scott Cooper, and Aidan Dixon.

It was noted during the December 30, 2024 meeting of the Fire Committee that Amanda Sneed, who was serving as the fire chief and was to move to administrative assistant, had resigned with a tendered last day of December 31, 2024. As for who would serve as interim chief, that position would

See CHIEF on Page 3

2025 New State Laws

Protect Tennessee Minors Act Hit With Injunction

BY JASON R. MARTIN

jmartin@mckenziebanner.com

NASHVILLE (January 2) — As we ring in the New Year, several new laws took effect January 1, 2025 across Tennessee. Two of the largest pieces of legislation were designed in protecting minors on the Internet; Protecting Children from Social Media Act (HB1891) and Protect Tennessee Minors Act (SB1792). While the laws require age verification of users to be either 18 years old or have parental consent, the Protect Tennessee Minors Act has found its way into Federal Court.

On Tuesday, District Court Judge Sheryl Lipman agreed to an injunction blocking the Protect Tennessee Minors Act. The act would in essence require age verification to view pornographic material via the web. The verbiage of statute says that material "considered 'content harmful to minors' under this bill when, taken as a whole, they lack serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value

See LAWS on Page 3

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Year in Review 2024

**Not in chronological order.*

Webb Public School Added to National Register of Historic Places

Edition: June 18, 2024
McKENZIE — Webb Alumni are celebrating a major milestone in the history of the former school for African-American students. On May 31, the school building was approved for the National Register of Historic Places.

The Tennessee Historic Commission and the United States Department of the Interior approved the application.

Webb Alumni Association is planning a celebration and ribbon cutting on July 20 at the school, located at 938 Walnut Street West, in McKenzie. It's been since the year 1966 when the school was closed and the African-American students were integrated with other students throughout Carroll and Weakley counties.

The school sits at the border of Carroll and Weakley counties and has a storied history of accomplishments and challenges. The on-site museum is open each Tuesday to tell the story of the school and its proud tradition of teaching young people.

According to the nomination form, the description of Webb School states, "The Webb School building sits on 15.1 acres and was constructed in 1958 in the Modern Movement style...The Webb School was moved to this property in 1937 after the other school building in town burned in 1936. The 1937 building was later torn down due to deterioration and the current building was constructed in 1958. The current school gained historical significance from 1958-1966, when it served as a school for local African American students, grades one through twelve. This school was also the only high school for African American students in Carroll County. The school was later desegregated in 1966, however the building continues to be maintained in its current historic state and is used for a variety of community needs.

"The Webb School retains its integrity and ability to communicate its historical significance as a center for education within the local African American community. The school retains its integrity of location and setting, as the building remains on its historic property from its period of significance and the area continues to be surrounded by residential buildings in a historically African American neighborhood. There have been some alterations to the overall design, mate-

rials, and workmanship of the school, including the demolition of the gymnasium in the 1970s due to deterioration, and the addition of ductwork and covering of some windows in the 1980s. Additional changes to the school grounds include the removal of the school agricultural building, dormitory, and cafeteria in the 1960s. However, with the exception of the gym, these other buildings were not attached to the Webb School, and the exterior of the building retains its signature horizontally oriented awning windows, brick siding, flat roof, and original fenestration. Interior changes took place in the late 1970s, which included new floors, paint, and updated classroom doors. However, these interior changes had minimal impact on the integrity of the school, as it retains its original hallway, office, and classroom configuration. As a result, the Webb School also retains its integrity of association and feeling."

West Tennessee Healthcare to Begin Operations of Henry County Hospital

Edition: September 17, 2024

PARIS (September 13) — Due to the passing of West Tennessee Healthcare President and CEO, James "JR" Ross, the previously scheduled ribbon cutting ceremony for September 19 has been rescheduled to November 7. JR was passionate about Henry County Medical Center joining the West Tennessee Healthcare family, and he believed in the positive impact the partnership would bring to the community.

West Tennessee Healthcare- Henry County Hospital invites the community to a ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating a new era in healthcare for West Tennessee. Henry County Medical Center was previously owned and operated by the county of Henry. However, due to financial challenges, the county found a partner in the medical industry to operate the hospital.

The event will now be held on Thursday, November 7, 2024, at 2 p.m. in the main lobby of the Paris, Tennessee hospital.

Join us for leadership remarks, light refreshments, and a chance to connect with the dedicated staff at the heart of this partnership.

This celebration marks a significant milestone in the commitment to enhancing healthcare services for the residents of West Tennessee. The ribbon-cutting ceremony will feature remarks from leaders of both HCMC and West Tennessee Healthcare, highlighting



Above, Mary Luter Jordan cuts the ribbon (courtesy of the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce) to commemorate the historic placement. Below, Board members of the Carroll County Inclusion Park and members of the Carroll County Commission cut the ribbon signifying the opening of the new facility. Photos by Joel Washburn/The Banner



the collaborative efforts to expand healthcare access, and provide an opportunity for the community to network with local healthcare professionals. West Tennessee welcomes all community members, local officials, and healthcare professionals to join in this celebration.

Event Details:
What: Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for West Tennessee Healthcare — Henry County Hospital

When: Thursday, November 7, 2024, at 2 p.m.

Where: Hospital Main Lobby, 301 Tyson Avenue, Paris, Tenn.

Please join West Tennessee Healthcare- Henry County Hospital as we celebrate this exciting new chapter in health care for West Tennessee. We look forward to sharing this special moment with our community!

West Tennessee Healthcare is a public, not-for-profit it healthcare system with locations serving 19 counties in West Tennessee and Southeast Missouri. The mission of West Tennessee Healthcare is to improve the health and well-being of the communities we serve while providing exceptional and compassionate care.

Carroll County Inclusion Park Celebrates Grand Opening

Edition: August 13, 2024

The Carroll County Inclusion Park hosted its grand opening on Saturday, August 10 at 10 a.m. The park is located at 450 Mustang Drive (formerly Fairgrounds Road) in Huntingdon.

The weather was beautiful with mild temperatures and sunny skies to mark the culmination of the first phase of construction, with

more musical instruments to be added in the near future.

The grand opening brought together children of many different physical abilities, who were eager to play on the brand new equipment. Seating was brought in and a small lectern served as members of the board of directors of Carroll County Inclusion Park and others spoke of the new park, with its playground, restrooms, and soft surface designed to prevent injuries. What was not lost on the ceremony, was the sounds of excitement from the children, who were enjoying the new venue. At times, the people speaking would stop to listen as the children played.

It also brought together a combination of all four high school bands - Huntingdon, McKenzie, West Carroll, and Hollow Rock-Bruce to perform music. Such an undertaking was last attempted to march in the inaugural parade of Governor Phil Bredesen, that was canceled after a large snowstorm.

As part of the celebration face painting, food trucks and other amenities were available.

Large donors, contributors and volunteers were recognized. The project raised more than \$1 million to construct and maintain the special playground. The County of Carroll provided \$400,000 from federal COVID relief funds approved by the Biden administration, the State of Tennessee provided another \$497,250 through Intellectual and Development Disabilities. State Senator John Stevens said Carroll County received the largest donation because its planning for an inclusion park

was well ahead of other communities' plans.

The Town of Huntingdon provided the real estate for the project. It is adjacent to Kelley Park and the Sesquicentennial Park, a small park gifted to the town of Huntingdon by the county of Carroll.

Lori Dillahunt, chairman, said "Having support is of the utmost importance to us. And now after receiving several grants from the state of Tennessee affirming what we have known all along. Carroll County families and friends will benefit from this unique playground for children of all ages and abilities."

The board consists of members: Lori Dillahunt, Jennifer Johnson, Jennie Smith, Wendy Jones, Krystal Tippitt, Connie Bond, Nikki Cunningham, Allison Williams, Jimmy Crossett and Dana Cobb.

"We are grateful to be receiving funds from the Tennessee Disability Coalition, Tennessee Art Commission, and the inclusive playground grant from the Tennessee Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. We also recently found out we are one of 14 recipients this year to be recognized as a Tennessee Healthy Built Environment. 137 letters of intent were submitted from across the state of Tennessee and we are encouraged that the committee wanted to partner with us and our project. This will add our location to a map on their website continuing to help us get information about our playground out to the public. When all is said and done we will have taken in over 1 million dollars for this project. We can't thank the County Commission and our granters enough for getting us here."

The group raised funds through special events, from municipalities.

The park started with the idea of at least having a swing designed for children with limited mobility and soon, the ad hoc group of volunteers envisioned greater things. The board of volunteers started with a bake sale in 2021. As word spread, more and more people in the community would share their experiences of taking their children to other cities with inclusion parks so they could be included as other children play.

Support for the project was widespread with people eager to provide for those who are not always included in activities. The idea soon expanded beyond a single inclusive swing.

New inclusive restrooms were constructed and include adjustable height sinks and changing tables, suitable for children or adults. Visit <https://carroll-countyinclusionpark.org/> to learn more.

Hospital Wing Now Has Home at Airport

Edition: December 24, 2024

McKENZIE (December 23) — Hospital Wing medical helicopter service is officially headquartered at Carroll County Airport in McKenzie.

Construction began at the Carroll County Airport for the air medical base service known as Hospital Wing in September. During the August 2024 meeting of the Carroll County Commission, a lease between Carroll County and Med-Trans Corporation was ratified with Med-Trans.

According to the lease agreement, Med-Trans will provide the county with a monthly \$3,000 payment. Additionally, the medical group plans to construct a hanger that would include housing/living quarters for its employees on call and other renovations at no cost to the county.

In July 2023, the Med-Trans/Hospital Wing held a ribbon-cutting ceremony marking the opening of what was to be their county home base at Baptist Memorial Hospital - Carroll County. At the time, the Baptist Hospital base would have served as a day-time-only base. Due to the lack of a hangar, each day, weather permitting, crews started the morning at the Selmer base and flew to Huntingdon.

A pilot, flight nurse and flight paramedic man the Airbus EC130 helicopter. Each aircraft is equipped with blood, plasma, IVs, ultrasound, and other medical equipment.

With the new hangar and base at the airport in McKenzie, Carroll County is now provided with around-the-clock air ambulance service.

The air ambulance is part of the emergency network supporting local hospitals and first responders. Flights to Memphis or Nashville can be just over 20 minutes compared to two hours via ground transportation. Subscriptions are available to lessen the cost of air transportation.

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Winter

...From Front Page

Freezing temperatures are forecasted to persist with highs in the mid-30s and lows in the teens on

Tuesday and Wednesday. Thursday's low is slightly higher in the mid-20s, but Friday's forecast calls for an 80 percent chance of snow with expected accumulation of one to three inches. Temperatures stay low on Saturday, but the

chance of continued precipitation is low, and Sunday's high is predicted to reach 40 degrees. Moving into next week, highs remain in the upper 30s with lows in the low 20s with very low chances of precipitation.

Chief

...From Front Page

go to County Mayor Joseph Butler and all reports related to the county fire department would be filed by EMA Director Trevor Foster. Questions were asked during the December 30 meeting about the structure of the process. Some

members of the committee requested closed interviews while others recommended allowing the public to observe the interviews. Hoping to be more transparent and not violate the Sunshine Law, Carroll County Attorney Robert Keeton, III and select commissioners advocated for open interviews. The exact date as to when the Fire Committee would provide a pro-

posed chief has not been determined. It is possible a second round of interviews could be scheduled if no particular candidate stands out amongst the others. The Carroll County Legislative Body is scheduled to meet on January 20. If Mayor Butler and the Fire Committee decide on a possible chief by that date, the Commission could confirm that nomination.

Road

...From Front Page

Casting Fluxes will cause lane closures throughout the project. **Gibson/Carroll County SR-76 (US-79):** The

grading, drainage, construction of a concrete box bridge, noise wall and paving on US 79 (SR 76) from west of Cades-Atwood Road in Gibson County to east of SR 77 in Carroll County will cause temporary lane closures throughout the project. **SR-76(US-79)/SR77:** Traffic was shifted to the

newly constructed lanes on the morning of November 11. TDOT advises all motorists to exercise caution as they adjust to new traffic patterns. While the new four-lane section will be open, final work on the project will continue under traffic with intermittent lane closures in the coming weeks.

Laws

...From Front Page

for minors: (1) Text, audio, imagery, or video the average person, applying contemporary community standards and taking the material as a whole and with respect to minors of any age, would find sexually explicit and harmful or inappropriate for minors or designed to appeal to or pander to the prurient interest; or (2) Text, audio, imagery, or video that exploits, is devoted to, or principally consists of an actual, simulated, or animated display or depiction of specific parts of a body or acts as described in the bill."

Tennessee Attorney General Jonathan Skrmetti has asked the federal appeals court to allow the Protect Tennessee Minors Act to take effect while litigation proceeds. Attorney General Skrmetti stated, "The Protect Tennessee Minors Act institutes common sense age verification to stop kids from accessing explicit obscene content while protecting the privacy of adults who choose to do so. Adults regularly have to prove their age to do things kids aren't allowed to do, like vote, buy a gun, or go to a bar. Other appellate courts, including the United States Supreme Court, have allowed similar laws to go into effect. We are asking the Sixth Circuit to let the Protect Tennessee Minors Act take effect while the litigation proceeds."

Judge Lipman said of the legislation, "The legislature has a compelling interest in protecting children from harmful content, and that is uncontested. But in its attempt to protect children, the State will unavoidably suppress a large amount of speech that adults have a First Amendment right to give and receive." The law requires companies whose content is deemed "inappropriate for minors" to use age-verification software. Violation of the law would be classified as a Class C felony. The Free Speech Coalition and four companies sued in federal court. State Representative Tandy Darby (R-Greenfield-District 76) said, "Pornography can have damaging impacts on a child's development and mental health. This harmful content is more accessible than ever before and unfortunately, children and teens across

the country are viewing it in staggering numbers. Tennessee Republicans have worked hard to protect minors and this common-sense law will help keep dangerous material out of their reach. I'm confident Attorney General Skrmetti will succeed in ensuring this law can take effect." Dr. Brock Martin (R-Huntingdon-District 79), "The intent of this bill is to protect children from pornographic materials and other harmful sites that they could access while online. While we must always protect First Amendment rights, I believe the current injunction will be lifted once the appeal process is complete. Our objective of the Tennessee General Assembly is to protect minors and this bill does just that. Free Speech Coalition Executive Director Alison Boden said of the legislation, "This is a deeply flawed law that puts website operators at risk of criminal prosecution for something as trivial as a mention of the human nipple." The Free Speech Coalition and those joining in the lawsuit based their argument on the First and Fourteenth Amendments. They claim the laws violate protected speech and label websites as "adult businesses" and it is "impermissibly vague" violating the Due Process Clause. Search engines, Internet service providers and public interest broadcast and publications would be excluded from this requirement. The Protecting Children from Social Media Act requires social media companies to verify users' ages. If a minor creates an account, the company needs to verify a parent has given permission first. The law itself is rather vague and will have to be interpreted by the courts. From its basic wording, if a parent finds out a social media site violated this law by allowing a minor to create an account without parental permission, they can file a complaint with the state attorney general's office, which will investigate. Tennessee's version is modeled after Louisiana's law. Here's a full list of laws taking effect at the beginning of 2025: HB0323: Amends TCA Title 67. Makes various revisions to present tax law. HB0885: Amends TCA Title 53, Title 56, and Title 71. Enacts the "Prior Authorization Fairness Act."

HB1482: Amends TCA Title 40, Chapter 11, Part 4. Allows virtual classes for bail agents, revises continuing education fees, and prohibits those with specific convictions from attending. HB1814: Amends TCA Title 66. Requires landlords to disclose certain contact information to tenants. HB1891: Amends TCA Title 47, Chapter 18. Creates the "Protecting Children from Social Media Act." HB2553: Action: Amends TCA Title 43, Title 44, Title 47, Title 48, and Title 66. Changes restrictions on land purchases by sanctioned foreign entities. HB2683: Action: Amends TCA Title 4 and Title 8. Revises hazardous duty supplemental benefits laws. SB0107: Amends TCA Title 55. Allows parents/guardians to apply for a disability communication designation in the Tennessee Vehicle Title and Registration System (VTRS). SB0624: Amends TCA Title 37, Title 39, and Title 40. Revises laws relating to juvenile courts and proceedings. SB0734: Amends TCA Title 33, Title 50, Title 56, Title 63, and Title 68. Enacts the "Tennessee Wellness Law." SB0898: Amends TCA Title 4 and Title 63. Creates a music therapist advisory committee under the Board of Examiners in Psychology. SB0937: Amends TCA Title 49, Title 63, and Title 68. Enacts the "Graduate Physicians Act." SB1792: Amends TCA Title 39 and Title 47. Enacts the "Protect Tennessee Minors Act," requiring websites to verify ages for harmful content. SB1798: Amends TCA Title 57. Requires server permit applicants to complete alcohol awareness training. SB1919: Amends TCA Title 56. Requires health plans to provide 12-month contraceptive refills unless otherwise specified. SB1936: Amends TCA Title 63. Revises rules for international medical school graduates seeking special licenses. SB2129: Amends TCA Title 57. Revises laws on intoxicating liquors. SB2307: Amends TCA Title 67. Adds hydrogen gas to alternative fuels under fuel tax law and exempts it from sales tax. SB2578: Amends TCA Section 62-5-414. Revises provisions for the "pre-need funeral account."

Downtown Stop Sign Struck by Driver



McKENZIE (January 6) — Just after noon on Monday, a driver preparing to turn right from Broadway onto Cedar Street struck and upended the stop sign located where the crosswalk meets the striped area next to a handicap parking spot. According to an eyewitness, a woman in a dark red SUV struck the sign, exited the vehicle to assess the situation, made a phone call and then left the scene shortly after. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner

Fire

...From Front Page

Etzel added, "Not in a million years would I think something so small would create so much chaos. And leave us with nothing. We are so heartbroken. I'm beyond grateful that we are safe. The kids are ok... Thank you to everyone who has reached out and helped us. We are truly blessed and grateful." According to Radio NWTN, Fire Chief James Martin said upon arrival, firefighters found the home to be fully engulfed in flames. Mutual aid was received from the Paris and Springville fire departments. Oakland responded with two trucks and five firefighters, Paris responded with two trucks and four firefighters, and Springville responded with one truck and four firefighters.



Firefighters on the scene working to put out the fully engulfed home.

West Carroll School Board to Meet

The West Carroll Special School District Board of Education meets Thursday, January 9 at 6:30 p.m. in the junior-senior high cafeteria in Atwood. Board members will discuss and consider for approval:

- A retirement letter from Marsha Wilson
- A resignation letter from

Hayden Jenkins

- Mowing bids
- WCJSHS Library flooring bids
- WCJSHS soil machine bids
- BETA Club National Convention field trip request (Florida)
- Policies regarding promotion and retention and background investigation

Director of Schools Preston Caldwell will also discuss the five-year strategic plan. Approval for appearing before the West Carroll Board is outlined in West Carroll Policy 1.404. Visit wcssd.org - policy manual, or call West Carroll Central Office at 731-662-4200.

West Tennessee Healthcare Earns National Recognition for Hospice Care

PARIS (December 30) — West Tennessee Healthcare Henry County Hospice has been honored as a 2024 National Best Practice Agency by WellSky, a distinction that highlights its exceptional commitment to caregiver experience and patient satisfaction. This prestigious recognition places West Tennessee Healthcare Henry County Hospice among the top 25% of agencies in WellSky's National Hospice CAHPS database. The award is based on survey results gathered from patients and their families, specifically measuring Overall Satisfaction and Likelihood of Recommending the agency. "We may be from a small town, but this achievement proves that small can be mighty," said Anna Hollandsworth, Director of Hospice Services. "This recognition comes directly from our

patients and their families, who have experienced the compassionate care we provide across the six counties we serve. Their feedback and trust have placed us among the best in the nation, and that is the greatest honor we could receive." Word of mouth has long been a hallmark of trust in smaller communities, and West Tennessee Healthcare Henry County Hospice exemplifies how a patient-first approach can lead to national acclaim. "This recognition shows how much of a difference our care team makes daily in the lives of our patients and their loved ones. It's their voices and experiences that have put us on this national stage," added Hollandsworth. The Hospice CAHPS Award of Distinction from WellSky celebrates agencies that excel in caregiver and patient experience, recog-

nizing them as leaders in hospice care. Valarie Johnson, CAHPS Project Director at WellSky, stated, "Your results are a testament to your unwavering commitment to quality care. We are honored to present this award and look forward to continuing our partnership to improve hospice care nationwide." West Tennessee Healthcare Henry County Hospice continues to demonstrate that dedication to personalized, compassionate care can achieve national recognition, proving that even in small communities, excellence in healthcare is not only possible but celebrated. For more information about West Tennessee Healthcare Henry County Hospice and the services it provides, please visit www.hcmc-tn.org or contact 731-642-7600.

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THE WIT AND WISDOM OF DAVID JOHNSON

Eating Broccoli with a Straw

Part II of II

Continuing from the December 31, 2024 edition.

Then, a waitress came up to us and said, “Y’all need a place to sit?”

(Uh, that would be a “yes.”)

“We’re full in here, but if you’ll follow me, I’ll show you where you can sit.”

Like little ducklings in a row, we followed her—through the dining room, past the buffet, into and through the kitchen, through the storage area where giant cans of green beans and fifty-pound bags of sugar and flour rested on metal shelves, into a narrow hallway, then through a door that took us right back outside.

By that time, I felt more like a rat in a maze than a duckling, but there was no turning back now because I was super curious where in the world she was taking us.

Stopping in front of another door, she pulled out a wad of keys and sifted through them. “This room might be a little big,” she said as she inserted the key in the lock, “but it’ll be like your own private dining area.”

I promise you when she opened the door there was the same kind of sound you hear on movies when archeologists open a crypt. It was like air was being sucked into the empty chamber.

My wife, ever the observant one, whispered, “This doesn’t seem right.”

No argument from me on that one, but my stomach was growling. Hunger always overrides reason.

We all walked into a room that was approximately forty feet long and twenty feet wide with a couple of eight-foot folding tables surrounded by metal folding chairs.

“Is this all right?” the waitress asked.

Roger and I looked at our wives with our eyebrows raised, wanting them to make the decision so if things turned out badly, we could blame them.

Laura and Brenda looked at each other, shrugged, and laughed.

“Sure,” they said.

We moved to sit down at the bare tables.

The waitress took our drink orders. As she headed out the door, she said, “If y’all want to go ahead and hit the buffet, I’ll bring your drinks out here. Just go back the way we came.”

It was all so weird it became funny. Laughing and joking with each other, we headed back through the storage room where this time I noticed the biggest mouse traps I’d ever seen sitting on the floor, through the kitchen where this time the cooks smiled and waved, and into the crowd at the buffet.

Everything smelled delicious.

Here comes the important word—BUT.

It smelled delicious, but I didn’t recognize a single thing. Large spoon handles stuck out at odd angles from different color containers of food. Some containers were different shades of green, a couple were shades of yellow, one was light brown, one was dark brown. But the contents were all runny and soupy, like they’d been run through a blender.

I looked around at the local citizenry to see if they were as befuddled as me, but they were all smiles. Some were with their elderly mom or dad, helping them with their plates.

The only thing I saw that I recognized was rolls. But I was hungry, so I got a spoonful of green, a spoonful of yellow, and two spoonfuls of the light brown, plus four rolls.

Once we had helped our plates, it was back through the kitchen where we were

greeted like old friends, through the storage room, the hallway, back outside, down the sidewalk and into our private dining room.

Our waitress had done just as she promised. All our drinks were there.

Time for another BUT. But, we didn’t have any silverware.

Roger volunteered to traverse our well-worn path and retrieve some cutlery. I suggested he just bring everybody a spoon or maybe a straw.

As far as our waitress went, evidently we were “out of sight, out of mind” because she never came back to check on us and never brought us checks for our meals.

If I remember correctly, none of us went back for seconds. I do remember eating all four of my rolls.

When we finished slurping our meal, Roger and I found our way to the cash register to pay.

A pleasant, maternal looking woman never asked us for a check, she simply asked how many people ate.

I dreaded her asking, “How was your meal?” because I couldn’t find the right words to accurately describe the experience. But she did ask the question. So, I said, “Everything seemed to be a little runny.”

“I know,” she said with a sigh, “that’s just the way our residents like it.”

Frowning and wrinkling my forehead, I replied, “Residents?”

A confused expression crossed her face. “Yeah, the people who live here. Who are you here to visit?”

Let me cut to the chase. It turned out someone had bought the motel and restaurant and turned it into a nursing home.

** Taken from The Wit and Wisdom of David Johnson, Volume 1: I Didn’t Know Donkeys Could Laugh.*

Carroll Arts to Host Trivia Bowl

Do you have a proficiency for remembering random facts? If the answer is yes, then make plans to attend Carroll Arts’ next event happening on Saturday, January 18.

Carroll Arts, Inc. will host its 14th Annual Trivia Bowl at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall at First Cumberland Presbyterian Church in McKenzie, located at 16835 Highland Drive.

The Trivia Bowl will consist of teams of 3-5 people from Carroll County businesses and organizations that compete against each other for first, second and third place prizes and bragging rights.

Trivia questions will be asked and teams have a limited amount of time, about 3-4 minutes, to put their heads together and submit the correct answer before the music stops. Music for the evening will be songs from TV shows. The winners will receive



awards and the notoriety that comes with being the smartest trivia bowlers in the room.

Teams of 3-5 people are \$25 to compete. Refreshments will be provided.

Judges are Ricky Price and Jason Martin. Emcee will be Brad Sam. Sound provided by Joel Washburn. Proceeds from this event go to promote the arts in Carroll County.

If you think your crew is up to the challenge, come join us!

Call or text 731-393-1870 to reserve your table.

If you want to preregister, please include the

following information: team name, organization/business, address, contact person, phone, and team members.

A registration table will be set up at the entrance to the fellowship hall for teams to register that evening. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Follow Carroll Arts on Facebook to learn more about events happening throughout the year. Happy New Year!

CORRECTION: In the December 24 edition of The McKenzie Banner, in the story titled, “Carroll Arts Elects Officers,” it was incorrectly stated that Glynda Rich was the founder of Carroll Arts. While Rich has been instrumental in the nurturing and growth of Carroll Arts, she clarified that creating Carroll Arts was a group effort from many people. The Banner regrets the error.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

McKenzie Sweeps West Carroll

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

MCKENZIE (January 3) — McKenzie High School kicked off 2025 with a pair of home basketball wins against West Carroll. The Lady Rebels had a strong first half en route to a 59-25 win, and the Rebels set the tone early in a 64-33 victory.

McKenzie Lady Rebels 59, West Carroll Lady War Eagles 25

The Lady Rebels jumped out to a 13-5 lead after the opening frame and shut out West Carroll 15-0 in the second for a 28-5 half-time lead.

Scoring for both teams picked up in the third as McKenzie had a 21-13 advantage. The Lady Rebels sealed the win with a 10-7 edge in the fourth.

Lady Rebel Jacey Staf-

ford led all scorers with 21 points, including a trio of three-pointers. Braylin Auvenshine scored 14 with a three. Molly French had seven points with a pair of threes. Ava Hastings and Sophie Pate each scored six points on a pair of three-pointers. Gracie Aird scored five points.

Chloe Rimmer led West Carroll with nine points. Gracelyn Vernon scored six with a three-pointer. Hailey Mitchell had four points, and Aubrey Hammett scored three. Abbi O’Bryan had a pair, and Taylor Robinson hit a free throw.

Rebels 64, War Eagles 33
McKenzie had a 16-9 lead after the first frame and a 21-8 advantage in the second quarter for a 37-17 lead at the half.

The Rebels outscored

West Carroll 20-11 in the third and had a 7-5 edge in the fourth.

Rebel Tate Surber led all scorers with 31 points, including a pair of three-pointers. Landon Brown scored ten with a pair of threes, and Carter Kee had six points on a pair of threes. Cole Brown scored four points. Eli Vinson and Nolan Fawcett each hit a three, and Avery Brown also scored three points. Craegen Travis and Kason Brown each had a pair.

Chandler Rimmer led the War Eagles with 14 points, including a three-pointer. Skyler Wilhite scored eight with a pair of threes. Kayden Melton had six points, and Demarion Gilbert scored four. Trey Williamson hit a free throw.

HUNKER DOWN WITH KES

Sometimes It’s Like ‘Back To The Future’

We never paid much attention to New Year’s. We didn’t celebrate it like Christmas or the Fourth of July. In those early grammar school days, it was sort of a precursor to having the holidays end, precipitating our forced return to the classroom.

We didn’t do any “New Year’s ‘Resolutin’.” Now, we hoped a lot back then. Bobby Brewer, Buddy Wiggleton, Ricky Hale, and I would gather on the front porch, with our coat collars turned up against the cold, and hope we didn’t have to cut out those February president’s heads in the fifth grade. We hoped the school boiler would explode again and delay our return to school.

We hoped it would snow “knee-high to a giraffe” so the whole school system would be shut down indefinitely. We hoped the teachers would go on strike.

We hoped a train loaded with dangerous chemicals would derail and overturn in that sweeping curve between the railroad station and the telephone office, and the town would have to be evacuated.

You catch our young drift....

But mostly we hoped our beloved St. Louis Cardinals would win every game in the upcoming 1959 season. It was our most consistent, ongoing hope. It sprang eternal in our little hearts....

And I believe to this day we would have won every game that summer if we hadn’t a’traded Wally Moon to the Los Angeles Dodgers for Gino Cimoli before the season started. Moon helped the Dodgers win the World Series that year. The Cards finished in their usual seventh place.

I know that startling trade doesn’t crank anybody’s tractor at the outset of 2025,

but it does point out how unforeseen events and uncontrollable situations can mar any New Year’s dreams, hopes, thoughts, or predictions.

Daddy used to say, “Hope for the best, but prepare for the worst.” He wasn’t talking about abstract forecasts or way-out-yonder prophecies, he was actually reminding me to not let Daisy or Mary May step in the bucket and spill the milk when I was a’milking them on those early, dark, freezing cold, December mornings.

Dad lived his life not looking back, or ahead, he was always tuned in to right now, at this very moment. I don’t know if he was short-sighted. Or profoundly spot-on!

High school found us spending our waning days of the year at the back booth of Frank’s Dairy Bar. We still hoped more than we “resolute-ed.” But we had moved

way past the elementary years. Buddy allowed we could pour a box of sulfur into that coal-burning furnace in the basement of the high school....

Mostly we talked about the basketball season and the upcoming playoffs. We wished we had Bobby’s ability to charm Miss Polly Rucker in English class. We hoped, or maybe dreamed, of owning a brand-new Thunderbird convertible. Shucks, the plain truth is we would have settled for a 1954 Nash Rambler.

I didn’t say nothing out loud, mind you, but secretly I sucked on my chocolate milkshake and kinda hoped Jane Hill might notice me a little bit in the upcoming year. Some New Year resolutions ain’t nobody else’s business!

College was another whole predicting ball game. I was so busy just surviving. I didn’t know one year from the next! My very first day on campus, I saw a guy jump out of a second-story window. I got hit so hard at football practice one time

it knocked me into the next year. We had multiple dogs come to class with us. The school called it tradition. Listen, it was hard to read “Chaucer” in proper Old English with a seventy-pound Dalmatian chewing on your shoestrings!

It snowed every day for two months during the winter. Classes were hard. I was 212 miles away from home. Life got very hard there for a while.

I prayed more than I dwelled on what may be coming in the next year.

Finding a job, marrying the right girl, trying to make a living, and starting a family throws the whole New Year resolution game off kilter. It is not about you anymore! It’s about the folks around you. Responsibility can put you into Daddy’s “here and now” world quicker than greased lightning.

Being a grownup is way more involved than we ever had a clue about out on that old porch, hoping up ways to keep from going back to school. I never laid awake

at night pondering on what I needed to focus on, plan for, or take care of until I had children of my own. You talk about rearranging everything about life.

But what a fun trip! It sure was better than jumping out of second-story windows in college. And it beats the heck out of milking ole Daisy and Mary May on a 25-degree predawn morning.

Life somehow got in the way of New Year’s predicting, and the wishing business.

And, with the onset of old age, the years are going by so fast you don’t have time for it. Before you can finish your resolution, that year is gone; and you’re halfway through the next one!

All that said, I have managed to summon up one hope, one small prediction for the new year. The St. Louis Cardinals are not going to lose a game this season....

Blessings in the New Year, Kes

Letter to the Editor Policy

Letters to the editor bear the opinion of the letter writer, and not necessarily that of the newspaper management or staff. Letters of opinion are not verified for

accuracy of fact and truly stand only as the writer’s opinion.

Letters to the editor of public interest are solicited. Most letters, not libelous or

harmful, will be published. The editorial staff may restrict the number of letters dealing with the same subject matter. The signature of the writer must be affixed

to the letter with a verifiable address and phone number. The address and phone number will not be published at the request of the writer, however the name will be published. Tri-County Publishing does not publish unsigned letters

of opinion.

The McKenzie Banner reserves the right to refuse any item deemed libelous, not of public interest, or commercial in nature. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit the material while preserving the intent of the letter.

Upon receipt in the offices of Tri-County Publishing, Inc., the letter becomes the property of the newspaper and will be retained in the files. Tri-County Publishing may solicit contrary opinion concerning the content of the letter.

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Obituaries



DR. KEVIN STROUP
1965 – 2024

LEXINGTON, formerly Huntingdon — Kevin Hallum Stroup, M.D., 59, of Lexington, died Sunday, December 29, 2024, at Jackson-Madison County General Hospital after a prolonged illness.

Kevin was born in Huntingdon on October 3, 1965, to the late Dr. J.C. and Joan Hallum Stroup and was a member of the First Baptist Church in Huntingdon. He is survived by his wife of 22 years, Susan Utley Stroup; son, Justin Stroup; stepson, Christopher Story, his wife, Katie and their children, Lincoln, Emery Kate and Claire, all from Lexington; three sisters, Marcia (Andy) Pickens from Nashville, Karen (Mark) Evers from Lexington, Ky., and Amy (Brian) Sullivan of Huntingdon; three nieces, Beth (Brad) Moore from Nashville, Leigh Pickens also from Nashville and Lauren (Michael) Carlini from Kansas City, Kan.; two nephews Benjamin Evers from Lexington, Ky., and Jacob Sullivan from Huntingdon.

Always the overachiever, Kevin achieved the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank in the Boy Scouts of America, and graduated first in his class from Huntingdon High School in 1983. After high school, he was accepted into the United States Military Academy at West Point. He then attended the University of Tennessee at Martin, graduating in 1987 with a bachelor's degree (magna cum laude) in Chemistry and Biology. Kevin then matriculated to the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis, Tenn. for medical school, graduating in 1991 with a Doctor of Medicine degree followed by a three-year Family Practice residency in Jackson.

In 1994, Kevin began practicing medicine as a physician for the Tennessee Department of Health/West Tennessee. He moved to Lexington, in 2001, where he was in private practice for the Jackson Clinic of Lexington, and in 2006, he joined the Henderson County Medical Group, where he practiced until 2023. In addition to his busy private practice, Kevin worked as a part-time emergency room physician from 1992-2021 and served Henderson County as medical examiner for many years. Kevin was a highly personable and caring physician and will be greatly missed by his patients and their families.

Kevin will be remembered as a loving and gracious husband, father, brother, uncle, 'Grandoc' and friend. Traveling throughout the U.S. was a favorite pastime for Kevin. In addition, he enjoyed many types of music and loved to go to concerts with family and friends.

Other hobbies that Kevin was passionate about included golf and cheering on the Nashville Predators. Christmas was Kevin's favorite time of the year. He took great delight and enjoyment in collecting ornaments, which he freely gifted to family and friends.

Funeral services were

Friday, January 3 at Reed's Chapel Funeral Home in Lexington. Burial was in the Lexington Cemetery.

TIMOTHY WAYNE WALDRUP
1958 – 2025

A gathering of friends for Timothy Wayne Waldrup was Sunday, January 5, 2025, at 4-7 p.m. at Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home. Cremation followed.

Mr. Waldrup, 66, died Thursday, January 2, 2025, at Springville. He retired from the City of McKenzie after a 38-year tenure. At retirement, he was the Supervisor of Public Works. He was born on December 19, 1958, in McKenzie to Franklin and Neely Lee Waldrup.

He is survived by his wife Jennifer Waldrup, son Marty (Amanda) Morris, a sister Barbara Rayburn and two grandchildren Madelyn Morris and Mary Ryan Morris all of McKenzie.

He is preceded in death by his parents and brother Gary Waldrup.

Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home, McKenzie. +

BARBARA JOYCE FERGUSON
1938 – 2025

McKENZIE — Funeral services for Barbara Joyce Ferguson were Saturday, January 4, 2025, at Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home. The family received friends on Saturday at 10 a.m. until service time. Interment was at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, McKenzie.

Mrs. Ferguson, 86, died at Volunteer Hospital, Martin, on Thursday, January 2, 2025. She retired from Super Drugs McKenzie. She was a member of Fairview Baptist Church.

She was born in Goodlettsville, on November 19, 1938, to John Thomas Kemper, Sr. and Isabelle Lassiter Kemper.

She is survived by two sons, David Ferguson (Me-

linda) and Mike Ferguson (Lori), all of McKenzie; a brother, John T. Kemper Jr "Bud" of Lexington, Ky.; three grandchildren, Andi Harrington (Travis), Heather Robertson (Frank) and Amanda Ninness (Alan) and five great-grandchildren, Callie, Case, Gracie, Alicyn and Aubry.

Her parents, her husband, Franklin D. Ferguson, and brother, Bill Kemper, preceded her in death.

In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that memorials be made to St. Jude or her church, Fairview Baptist Church.

Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home, McKenzie. +

GARY ALAN WILLIAMS
1966 – 2025

HUNTINGDON — Mr. Gary Alan Williams, 58, of Huntingdon, died Wednesday, January 1, 2025, at Jackson Madison County General Hospital.

Funeral services were Saturday, January 4, 2024, in the Chapel of Chase Funeral Home. Interment was in Liberty All Cemetery.

Mr. Williams was born May 9, 1966, in Memphis, to Larry G. Williams and the late Margaret Jane Jones Williams.

Along with his father, Larry Williams, he is survived by a brother, Brian Williams (Stephannie), of Jackson, and a niece, Rayanna Williams and several cousins.

ROGER HOLLOWELL
1938 – 2025

YUMA — Mr. Roger Hollowell, 86, of Yuma, died Wednesday, January 1, 2025, at Huntingdon Health and Rehab.

Funeral services were Friday, January 3, 2025, at Yuma Missionary Baptist Church. Interment was in New Hope Cemetery.

Mr. Hollowell was born December 21, 1938, in Yuma to the late Willie B. Hollowell and Kate Orr

Hollowell. Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by a daughter, Regina Pritchard, and a sister, Jan Collins.

He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Sue Hollowell, a daughter, Teresa Todd (Michael) of Yuma, a sister, Mary Cowan (Bill) of Murray, Ky.; six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

DONALD EBERLEY
1935 – 2024

Mr. Donald Eberley, 89, of Huntingdon, died Saturday, December 28, 2024, at Life Care of Bruceton.

Mr. Eberley was born November 4, 1935, in York, Pa., to the late Charles Freeze and Shirley Reel. He was also preceded in death by his wife of 66 years, Mrs. Elnora Eberley of Huntingdon; daughter, Stephanie Padelsky, and son Toby Eberley.

He is survived by two daughters, Tracey McFerran of Burlington, Vermont; Heather (Dan) Willman of Huntingdon; son, Seth (Kim) Eberley of Batesburg, S.C.; two sisters, Karen Sigel and Pat Sigel, both of York, Pa.; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Dilday-Carter Funeral Home.

DONALD RAY BAILEY
1954 – 2025

HENRY — Mr. Donald "Donnie" Ray Bailey, 70, of Henry, died Wednesday, January 1, 2025, at Henry County Medical Center.

Graveside services were Saturday, January 4, 2025, at Mt. Comfort Cemetery.

Mr. Bailey was born January 25, 1954, in Carroll County to the late Thurman Bailey and Ruth Boyd Bailey. He is also preceded in death by his wife, LaDonna Kay Bailey and seven of his siblings.

He is survived by five daughters, Angela (Thomas and Gracie) Rogers of

Hollow Rock; Brandy (Jonnie) Connell of Big Sandy; Amber (Dan) Mueller of Trezevant; Andrea (Chris) Caldwell of Paris; Cassy (James) Wells of Henry; two sisters, Brenda (Steve) Todd of Gleason; Debbie Burns of Huntingdon; two brothers, Scotty (Nellie) Bailey; Bruce Bailey, both of Huntingdon; twelve grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Dilday-Carter Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

DARTHINE JOYCE HAYES HOUSE
1948 – 2025

McKENZIE — Mrs. Darthine Joyce Hayes House, 76, died Saturday, January 4, 2025, at her residence.

She is a retired production seamstress, and a member of First General Baptist Church Milan. She was born in Gann, Tenn., on August 3, 1948, to Henry Lewis Hayes and Jewel Marie Davenport Hayes.

Funeral Services for Mrs. House are Thursday, January 9, 2025, at 2 p.m. at First General Baptist Church, Milan. The family will receive friends at the church on Thursday, from 12 p.m. until service time. Interment will follow at Pratt Cemetery in the Gann Community.

She is survived by her daughter Melena House of McKenzie, three sisters Maryland Hughes of Lavinia, Phyllis Glasgow (Michael) of Springville, and Joy Replogle (O'Neal) of Bradford, a brother Eddie Joe Hayes (Cheryl) of Brad-

ford, six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents, her husband Donald Ray House and son Kevin Don House.

Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home, McKenzie. +

JANICE CAROL HARRISON
1953 – 2024

HENRY — Funeral services for Janice Carol Harrison were Friday, December 27, 2024, at Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home. Interment was at Bethlehem Baptist Church Cemetery, Henry.

Ms. Harrison, 71, died Sunday, December 22, 2024, at Jackson Madison County General Hospital. She was a Henry First Baptist Church member and a retired bank teller for Bank of Gleason, McKenzie Branch. She was born in Henry County, Tenn., on February 4, 1953, to Ardie and Eller Ray Rayburn Harrison.

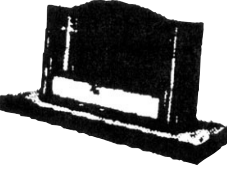
She is survived by her daughter, Julie Jackson, and her husband, Dusty, of Henry; a son, Jason Lyles of Hornsby, Tenn.; a brother, Jerry Harrison of Plant City, Fla.; four sisters, Evelyn Gillingham, Faye Cook, Catherine Gibson and her husband, Junior, and Wanda Travis and her husband, Barry, all of McKenzie and two grandchildren, Jacob Jackson and Emberly Lyles.

She was preceded in death by her parents and sister, Ruth Toombs.

Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home, McKenzie. +

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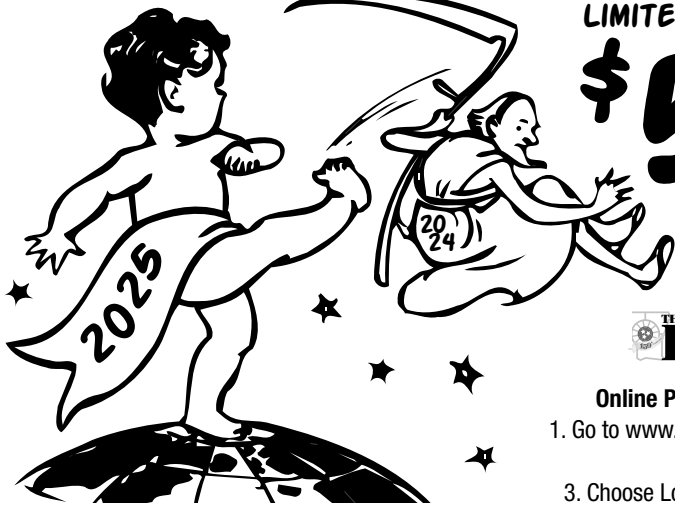
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OF EVENTS

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CARROLL ARTS
TRIVIA BOWL

Carroll Arts' annual Trivia Bowl is Saturday, January 18, 2025 at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall at First Cumberland Presbyterian Church in McKenzie, located at 16835 Highland Drive. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Teams of 3-5 people are \$25 to compete. If you are interested in participating, call or text 731-393-1870 to reserve your table.

McKENZIE TOPS
TO MEET

The McKenzie TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Chapter meets on Mondays at 3 p.m. at the McKenzie Church of Christ gym. Anyone interested in losing weight can join. For more information, contact Linda Lawrence at 731-352-7309. If no answer, leave a message.

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Huntingdon Location — Adult Education Building, 14155 Paris Street. Office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Classes are offered for one-on-one instruction on Mondays, 1-4 p.m. and Thursdays, 9 a.m.-NOON. For more information, phone 731-364-5481.

CARROLL HUMANE
SOCIETY EVENTS

Cat Vouchers

We always have spay/neuter vouchers for cats at a cost of \$50 and to be used at Paris Vet Clinic. If you need to pay with cash, come by the shelter to purchase. Otherwise, we have a NEW NUMBER to purchase using a credit/debit card. Please leave a message and the volunteer will return your call very soon, 731-514-0878.

Dog Vouchers

Dog vouchers are available for \$60 each cash or card only. These must be purchased at the shelter during business hours Tuesday-Saturday 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Appointments will be made at the time of purchase and begin on January 6, 2025. The participating vet clinic is Huntingdon Animal Clinic. You'll be responsible for paying the clinic when you pick up your animal. We

do recommend that you have your pet vaccinated due to exposure to other animals. Puppies must be a minimum of 4 months of age (older if small breed) at the time of surgery.

CARROLL
DEMOCRATIC PARTY
MEETS

The Carroll County Democratic Party meets the third Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. at 12740 Lexington Street, Huntingdon.

CARROLL
REPUBLICAN PARTY
MEETS

Carroll County Republican Party meets monthly each fourth Tuesday, 7 p.m. in the Public Safety Building in Huntingdon.

CARROLL
COMMISSION MEETS
MONTHLY

Carroll County Commission meets the second Monday of each month, 7 p.m., in the Conference Room of the Carroll County Office Complex, High Street, Huntingdon. There are no meetings in February and July.

GET THE WORD OUT

The newspaper publishes most news items for free. Submit to EVENT@mckenziebanner.com or call 731-352-3323 Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Thank you for reading and supporting your community newspaper.

Carroll County General Sessions

HUNTINGDON (January 6) — The following cases were heard in Carroll County General Sessions Court on January 3, 2025:

Charles William Arant, Hinkledale Rd., McKenzie, Guilty Plea-As Charged Probation Violation.

Caleb Neal Balentine, 530 Bowden Rd., Huntingdon, Pre-Trial Diversion Underage Driving While Impaired.

Matthew Britt, 7928 Richardson Rd., Winston, GA, Guilty Plea-As Charged Violation of Order of Protection/Restraining Order.

Tonyka Clark, 18 Ruth St., McKenzie, Guilty Plea-As Charged Possession of Unlaw Drug Paraphernalia Uses & Activities; 15 Day sentence with Supervised Probation.

Tonyka Clark, 18 Ruth St., McKenzie, Dismissal/Nolle Prosequi Evading Arrest.

Michael Gilbert, 863 Magnolia Ave., McKenzie, Guilty Plea-Lesser Charge Methamphetamine - Possess Or Casual Exchange, Jail Sentence Suspended for All but 30 Days with Supervised Probation for Balance of Sentence; Time Served Credit 16 Days.

Maurice Lawrence, 3115 Coleman Rd., Memphis, Dismissal/Nolle Prosequi Criminal Trespass.

Laderrick D Means, 425 Main St W., Henderson, Dismissal/Nolle Prosequi EVADING ARREST. Guilty Plea-As Charged' entered on Simple Poss/Casual Exchange; sentence \$250 FINE; 20 Day Sentence with Sup Prob For Balance; Dismissal/Nolle Prosequi Driving While License Revoked. Dismissal/Nolle Prosequi SPEEDING. Dismissal/Nolle Prosequi' Drivers License To Be Carried And Exhibited.

Justin Melton, 2100 Hebron Church Rd., Bruceton, Guilty Plea-Lesser Charge Simple Poss/Casual Exchange for \$750 FINE; 20 Day Sentence with Supervised Probation For Balance. Dismissal/Nolle Prosequi Possession Unlaw Drug Paraphernalia Uses & Activities.

Shawn Nieves, 184 Forrest Circle, McKenzie, Guilty Plea-As Charged Probation Violation, Sentenced to 11/29 At 75% Credit for 124 Days.

Lloyd J Sawyer, 185 Park Circle, McKenzie, Dismissal/Nolle Prosequi for Probation Violation.

Floyd Sellers, 3310 Old Reagan Rd., Sardis, TN, Guilty Plea-As Charged for Probation Violation - Not Booked For Floyd Sellers Sentenced To Serve On 4/11/25 If Not Paid In Full.

Rebecca Brooke Sims, 245 Dodd St., Hollow Rock, Bound Over To Grand Jury for Methamphetamine Manufacturing, Deliver, Sell, Possession with Intent.

Athena Stafford, 42 ELM ST, McKenzie, Guilty Plea-As Charged Criminal Trespass, No Fine, Jail Sentence Except Time Served For 30 Days, No Contact With E.W. James And Un-supervised Probation For 30 Days.

Jessica June Winter, 2100 Hebron Church Rd., Bruceton, Dismissal/Nolle Prosequi Possession Unlaw Drug Paraphernalia Uses & Activities. Dismissal/Nolle Prosequi Schedule Ii Drugs: Mfg, Del, Sell, Poss.

Stevens-Sponsored Legislation Protects Land from Foreign Adversaries

BY JOHN STEVENS'
SENATE OFFICE

NASHVILLE — As 2025 begins, there are new Tennessee laws that will go into effect. January 1, 2025 will be the first date that certain laws passed by the General Assembly in the last legislative session will go into effect. Senator John Stevens (R-Huntingdon) cracked down on illegal immigration, protected children, and protected land.

"Agriculture is the one of the largest drivers of Tennessee's economy," said Stevens. "The protection of this land is absolutely vital to our state. I co-sponsored a bill last legislative session to crack down on foreign adversaries from purchasing our land that will be effective on January 1st, 2025."

On January 1, the new laws sponsored and co-sponsored by Stevens include:

Collection of data of illegal immigrants requires the DAGC to collect and compile data on the cost to Tennessee taxpayers of illegal immigrants in state custody for criminal offenses. It also requires the DAGC to collect data from law enforcement agencies on the number of persons not lawfully present in the United States. The report will be submitted to the Governor and both speakers of the General Assembly. The budget allocates \$383,500 to implement this law and ensure the DA's Conference has necessary resources to compile the report.

Protect Tennessee Minors Act requires online media companies and operators will be required to verify users' ages in order to access sites with explicit adult content. Additionally, this act requires companies to match a photograph of an active user to a photograph on a valid form of ID.

Protecting Tennessee property from foreign adversaries further protected Tennessee from land being purchased to hostile foreign nations. This bill prevents prohibited foreign parties designated by the federal government from owning or acquiring property in the state unless certain conditions are met. The new law strengthens a similar law passed last year with stricter protections and reporting requirements. Any prohibited foreign party or business that currently owns land in the state would have to divest itself from the property within two years, according to the bill. The Office of Agriculture Intelligence would also be created within the Tennessee Department of Agriculture to collect data and analyze information regarding the unlawful sale or possession of agricultural land statewide.

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A7655/5-1E

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Thurs. 7:35

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Thurs. 7:25

SONIC 3 (PG)

Tues. 7:30
Wed. 7:30
Thurs. 7:30

MUFASA (PG)

Tues. 7:30
Wed. 7:30
Thurs. 7:30

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A4365/1-1

McKenzie Police Reports

Aggravated Assault, Domestic Assault, Interfering with 911 Emergency Call

On December 30, 2024, McKenzie Police received several calls from a Walnut Circle residence. Two of the calls hung up before speaking with dispatch. On the third call, the caller stated that she had been in an altercation with her boyfriend but he had left the scene. Sgt. Tanner Jackson responded to the call and made contact with the caller/victim. She stated that she and her ex-boyfriend, Javion Patton, were laying down when she received a phone call from an unknown number. At which time, Patton demanded to see the phone and began to act aggressively.

The victim added that Patton threw her to the ground before choking her with both hands. She was able to kick Patton in order to get away. Patton then prevented her from calling the MPD. The victim produced her phone and showed Sgt. Jackson her call log.

Sgt. Jackson noted the victim has visible injuries to her neck area, consistent with strangulation. She also had a bruise on her right knee and right elbow. She agreed to write a statement in regards to the incident.

Patrolman Dillon and Patrolman Burson made contact with Patton on the corner of Booker Street and Brawner Avenue. He was placed under arrest and charged with Aggravated Assault, Domestic Assault, and Interfering with a 911 Emergency Call. Patton was not issued a cash bond and was transported to Carroll County Jail.

Driving on Suspended/Revoked License, Failure to Appear, Violation of Probation — On January 1, 2025, Patrolman Dustin McClure observed a black 2006 Ram traveling west on Walnut Ave E. The vehicle failed to stop at the stop sign at Walnut and Main Street. After initiating a traffic stop, the driver, Dustin Whitson, advised that his license was suspended and he had a warrant out in Stewart County.

Dispatch confirmed two active warrants: Failure to Appear and Registration Violation.

Whitson was cited into General Sessions and transported to Carroll County Jail for driving on a suspended

license and for having active warrants.

Theft, Simple Possession or Casual Exchange, Tampering with Evidence

On January 2, 2025, an individual called into dispatch to advise that his mothers jewelry box and jewelry was stolen from Aubrey Ave.

Patrolman Dustin McClure arrived on scene and spoke to the victim in reference to her jewelry being taken. She advised that Emily Hood had been at their residence from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. It was during this time she had opened the back door and left it open. After Hood left that residence, it was then noticed that the Jewelry box was missing from her house.

Officers made contact with Hood who advised that she would return the jewelry box and its contents. After picking up the jewelry box from Ms. Hood, it returned to the victim.

The victim then advised that she still had rings, a bracelet and a cross necklace missing from the box. Ptlm. McClure made contact with Hood, advising additional items were still missing.

Ms. Hood gave Ptlm. McClure some rings that were then returned. The victim stated she was still missing seven rings equaling \$3,500, two bracelets equaling \$60 and a necklace equaling \$50.

Officers returned to Hood's residence. She ran into the backyard and hid inside the tree line. Ptlm. McClure and Ptlm. Henderson located and arrested Hood for Theft over \$1,000.

While making contact with Hood, Ptlm. McClure could see she was trying to conceal/eat something in her mouth. Upon request, she opened her mouth and showed officers what she had inside of it. She was attempting to eat a blunt with approximately seven grams of a green leafy substance believed to be marijuana. Hood was instructed to spit out the blunt so she could not destroy the evidence.

She was then arrested and transported to the Carroll County Jail for the proper booking procedure: Theft over \$1000.00 - Bond \$ 15,000; Simple Poss. Sch 6 - Bond \$2,500; Tampering with Evidence - Bond \$ 2,500. She was also banned from the residence of the victim.

Domestic Assault

January 2, 2025, Sgt. Darren Davis responded to a domestic assault that occurred at Park Street. Upon arriving on the scene, a minor and his mother were standing in the front yard of the residence. They stated that the minor's girlfriend, also a minor, punched him in the back of the head.

He stated officers just left the residence a few minutes before Sgt. Davis' arrival. He said officers told them to separate because the altercation was only verbal, not physical at that time. He explained the situation escalated after the officers left. He had gone into the back bedroom to retrieve his keys and was assaulted by his girlfriend. Both parties did write a statement explaining the girlfriend punched the boyfriend in the back of the head.

Due to the information obtained by officers on the scene the female was arrested for Domestic Assault (\$2,500 Bond) and was transported to the Carroll County Jail for proper booking procedures.

Driving on Suspended/Revoked License, Speeding, Financial Responsibility — On January 2, 2025, Ptlm. McClure observed a 2001 Black Jeep Cherokee traveling West on Cedar St. The vehicle mentioned was clocked at over 40 M.P.H. by an in-car radar system in a 30 M.P.H. zone. After initiating a traffic stop for the speed violation, Ptlm. McClure requested dispatch to check the driving history of Mr. Thum. Dispatch advised that Thum's license was suspended out of Erin city court for failure to file insurance, with a suspension date of 04/11/2024. He was cited in Carroll County General Sessions and advised to report to jail within the 10-day booking period.

Criminal Trespass — On January 4, 2025, McKenzie Police Dispatch was notified by an employee at Casey's General Store/Gas Station, that Maurice Lawrence was at the store. A ban notice had been issued for Lawrence on 04/26/2017.

Upon arrival on the scene, officers made contact with Lawrence. He was placed in custody for Criminal Trespass and transported to Carroll County Jail without incident.

Property Transfers

Jerome Clay Sydnor to William E. and Mary Bontrager in District 3.

Lottye Ruth Choate to Kelly Maynard in District 4.

Cynthia Gail Smith to Lillie and Benjamin Jackson in District 6.

June Hardin to Duane Scott, Sr. and Bonnie Jo Dorris Glover.

Russell and Ethan Lee Downing to Kyle and Rumon Jugli Fournier in District 11.

Jocelyn Aileen Reyes to Jose L. and Beatriz Reyes in District 19.

Scott Andrew and John E. Arnold Jr. to Jennifer Wilson in District 4.

Timothy Pickard to J. R.

Woodruff.

Daniel Matthew and Brittny Rachel Kelly to Kelly Family Properties, LLC.

Timothy Lee Young to Billy and Nancy Pruitt in District 6.

Steven and Amy Jo Hardwick to Amber Nicole and Juan Marcos Gutierrez in District 20.

Larry J. and Jamie A. Ivy to Vidblain Allfadir Flores and Priscilla Navarro Becerra in District 22.

Highway Partners to James Todd and Donesa Louise Fischer in District 6.

Holly V. Hickman to John R. and Kimberly J. Brannon in District 22.

Joshua W. Filtz to Larry Dwayne Wheat in District 4.

Larry Dwayne Wheat to Joshua Wheat Filtz in District 4.

Joel Lynn Coffman to Matthew Darrell Coffman in District 20.

Blue Sky Inv. To Natividad and Juan C. Sierra in District 4.

Valerie Bogard to Bradley Arnold in District 21.

Thomas Robert and Jennifer Lee Edwards to Cody Glenn Calaway.

Bailey Christine Timmons Mansfield to Sherman and Melissa Watson in District 4.

Jennifer Brou to William Daniel Whitehead in District 7.

Carroll County Sheriff's Reports

Vandalism — According to a report made by Deputy Alex Sherwood on December 26, 2024, he was dispatched to a residence in Yuma in reference to tires being slashed. The complainant, Gideon Gooch, advised that an unknown person came on his property and slashed two tires on his truck. The vehicle was owned by his father that resides at the same residence. Gideon couldn't think of anyone who would be upset enough to slash his tires.

Violation of No Contact Order — On December 29, 2024, an ex-wife phoned the Sheriff's office reporting her ex-husband had violated the no contact order by texting her in a group chat with their children. Stephen Moffler, 35, of Huntingdon, was arrested for contacting his ex-wife.

Critical Infrastructure Vandalism — On December 30, Brad Moore, field, services associate manager with TDS telecommunications, called to report around 17900 Highway 114 Buena Vista a 125-foot section of phone and internet cable was cut and stolen. There were two cables, both around

125 feet each with estimated value of \$6,496. Labor and materials for replacement had an estimated cost of \$12,527.25. It appeared that

the defendant threw paracord with a large magnet attached across the cable to pull them down within reach to be cut. The paracord, magnet, and headlamp were recovered from the scene.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Carroll County Sheriff's Office and Civil Service Commission are announcing the procedure for applicants who seek the position of Deputy Sheriff and Communications Officer, as they become available.

Application forms may be picked up Monday thru Thursday 7 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Sheriff's Office, 200 Norandal Drive, Huntingdon TN 38344. Job descriptions may be requested from the Sheriff's Office.

On January 21, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. promptly, there will be no late admittance. A written test will be administered to all applicants who have not previously been tested or failed a previous test. The test will be given at the Carroll County Sheriff's Office training room 200 Norandal Drive, Huntingdon TN 38344. The test will cover the areas of reading, math, and basic writing skills. The written test will conclude at 9:30 a.m. Immediately following the written test, interviews (oral examinations) will be conducted by a member of the Sheriff's Office and a member of the Civil Service Commission. All applications need to be turned into the Sheriff's Office no later than Tuesday January 14, 2025 at 4 p.m. Only the top 7 applicants in each category will be notified.

Carroll County Civil Service Commission

A13/PO#101-41074/1-1

PUBLICATION NOTICE

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

JOANNA ALLEN STILES, PLAINTIFF,

VS. JOSHUA MICHAEL STILES, DEFENDANT,

DOCKET NO. 2024DR214

TO: JOSHUA MICHAEL STILES

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint which is sworn to, that the whereabouts of the Defendant, JOSHUA MICHAEL STILES, is unknown and cannot be ascertained by the diligent search and inquiry made to that end. JOSHUA MICHAEL STILES is therefore, hereby, required to appear and Answer the Complaint filed in this Cause against him/her in the CHANCERY Court of CARROLL County, Tennessee, within thirty days of the last publication of this Notice and served a copy of Answer on Howard F. Douglass, P.O. Box 39, Lexington, TN, 38351, Attorney for Plaintiff, within said time. If you fail to do so judgement by default will be taken against you for relief demanded in the Complaint at hearing of the cause without further notice.

It is further Ordered that this Notice be published for four consecutive weeks in THE MCKENZIE BANNER.

This the 17th day of December, 2024.

Kenneth Todd, Clerk & Master

A8515/R24939/52-4

Huntingdon Police Reports

Driving on Revoked, Suspended — On December 23, Officer Dexter Richardson clocked on his radar Conrado Jimenez, 28, driving 73 miles per hour in a 55-mph zone. After a

computer check, it was determined Conrado's license was revoked for a prior DUI. Jimenez was arrested for driving on a revoked license and transported to Carroll County Jail.

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR RFP

Carroll County Government (Tennessee)

Please notice that the Carroll County Mayors Office shall accept sealed written proposals for a Construction Manager for the Carroll County Civic Center Renovation Project, a large scale project in partnership with the State of Tennessee. The successful manager will act on the best interest of the County throughout the entire project. Please note, whomever serves as Construction Manager will not be eligible to bid on the actual construction contract(s) as a contractor or sub-contractor.

Proposals, bids, or responses must be submitted to the Office of the Carroll County Mayor, Joseph G. Butler, at 625 High St. Suite 101, Carroll County Office Complex, Huntingdon, Tennessee, 38344, no later than 9 a.m. CST, January 23, 2025, at which time the bids will be opened and considered at a public meeting of the Purchasing Committee.

For inquiries, please contact Natalie McMasters, Civic Center Director, by phone at 731-986-1357 or by email at nmcmasters@carroll.tn.org. For copies of RFP documents, please email Ms. McMasters or pick up documents at the Carroll County Civic Center, located at 201 Fairgrounds Rd., Huntingdon, TN 38344.

All interested parties, without regard of race, color or national origin, shall be afforded the opportunity to bid and shall receive equal consideration. Title VI states "No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program activity receiving Federal financial assistance." Carroll County strives to protect individuals' civil rights through active compliance with the requirements of Title VI.

The Owner (Carroll County) further reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any and all informalities and to negotiate contract terms with the successful bidder, and the right to disregard all non-conforming, non-responsive, or conditional bids.

Joseph G. Butler, Mayor
Publication Date: 1/6/2025

A13/1-2

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

The Board of Directors of Northwest Tennessee Economic Development Council will hold a Board meeting on **Friday, January 17, 2025, beginning at 10 a.m.** The meeting will be physically held at the Northwest TN Head Start/Early Head Start Central Office located at 938C Walnut Avenue W., McKenzie, TN 38201, and held virtually by Zoom.

A4070/1-1

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Carroll County Government (Tennessee)

Please notice that the Carroll County Mayors Office shall accept sealed written bids for replacement of HVAC units at the Carroll County Civic Center.

Proposals, bids, or responses must be submitted to the Office of the Carroll County Mayor, Joseph G. Butler, at 625 High St. Suite 101, Carroll County Office Complex, Huntingdon, Tennessee, 38344, no later than 9 a.m. CST, January 23, 2025, at which time the bids will be opened and considered at a public meeting of the Purchasing Committee.

For inquiries, please contact Natalie McMasters, Civic Center Director, by phone at 731-986-1357 or by email at nmcmasters@carroll.tn.org. For copies of bid documents, please email Ms. McMasters or pick up documents at the Carroll County Civic Center, located at 201 Fairgrounds Rd., Huntingdon, TN 38344.

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Joseph G. Butler, Mayor
Publication Date: 1/6/2025

A13/1-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

PROBATE CASE NO: 2024PE222

ESTATE OF: VIRGINIA MARIE SMITH, LATE OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Notice is hereby given that on the 30TH day of **DECEMBER, 2024** Letters Testamentary, of Administration, in respect to the Estate of **VIRGINIA MARIE SMITH** deceased, who died **OCTOBER 16TH, 2024**, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court Clerk & Master of Carroll County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the Estate are required by law to file the same with the Clerk of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this Notice to Creditors at least sixty (60) days before date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the Notice to Creditors, if the creditor received a copy of the Notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting) as described in (1) (A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death. All persons indebted to the above Estate must come forward and make proper settlement with the undersigned at once.

This 30TH day of **DECEMBER, 2024**.
THIS NOTICE WILL RUN TWO CONSECUTIVE WEEKS.

FILE CLAIMS IN TRIPLICATE WITH:
KENNETH TODD - CLERK & MASTER
99 Court Square, Suite 105, Huntingdon, TN 38344

WADE E. SMITH, PHILIP S. SMITH & SHELIA K. HENSLEY, Executor/Administrator
LAURA A. KEETON, Attorney
KENNETH TODD, Clerk & Master

A561/R24986/1-2

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SERVICES

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Pictured (L to R): Top, Tate Surber and KD Cunningham. Above, Skyler Fornera and Cole Brown. Below, Gray Eubanks and Brady Warbritton. File photos



Several Players Included on the Coaches’ All-State Football List

NASHVILLE (January 2) — The Tennessee Football Coaches Association has begun releasing it’s all-state teams for the 2024 TSSAA football season.

Division I Classes 1A and 2A were released Thursday. TNFCA all-state players include:

Class 1A

Quarterbacks: Nate Adams, Clay Co.; Dayon Cooper, South Pittsburg; Tate Surber, McKenzie.

Running backs: Ja’Mychal Buckner, South Pittsburg; Luke DiPietro, Dresden; Kaleb Snitzer, Eagleville.

Wide receivers/tight ends: Nolan Adams, Clay Co.; Cole Brown, McKenzie; Lance Burchett, Clay Co.; Jake Sands, Richland.

Offensive linemen: Aydan Blair, Moore Co.; Bret Corn, Cosby; Kelan Roberson, Union City; Logan Sisk, South Pittsburg; Noah Young, Cloudland.

Athlete: Amari Cotton, Jo Byrns.

Kicker: Skyler Fornera, McKenzie.

Defensive linemen: KD Cunningham, McKenzie; Shooter Foster, Richland; Peyton Martin, Moore Co.; Jamarcus Pittman, MASE.

Linebackers: Stanley Burrow, MASE; Luke Eslick, Richland; Akeem Hunt, MASE; Marshall Spann, Eagleville; Oliver Zeunik, Cosby.

Defensive backs: Cooper Allman, Dresden; Trevor Gilbert, Jellico; Isaac Petty, Moore Co.; Khadon Piphus, Halls; Devonte Wigfall, Cosby.

Athletes: Bennett McDougal, Whitwell; Connor McKinney, Unaka.

Punter: Charlie Mike Mulcahy, South Fulton.

Class 2A

Quarterbacks: Andrew Johnson, Fairley; Mason Tidwell, Loretto; Kason



Easton Byars

Young, East Robertson.

Running backs: Jaydon Peete, Milan; Sam Pickett, Marion Co.; Brady Warbritton, Huntingdon.

Wide receivers/tight ends: Lane Cope, Eagleton; Troyce Grimsley, Fairley; Corben Reynolds, Loretto; Zyress Short, Fairley.

Offensive linemen: Dalton Blackburn, East Hickman; Zach Bruggner, Bledsoe Co.; Kam Cash, Oneida; Josh Crawley, Riverside; Hunter Gray, Westmoreland.

Athlete: Gray Eubanks, Huntingdon.

Kicker: Brad Hoffman, Summertown.

Defensive linemen: Kole Bowman, Monterey; Tyson Click, Eagleton; Dav-eon Johnson, Jackson Central-Merry; Zeke Walkup, Cannon Co.

Linebackers: Dominique Burleson, Hampton; Jayland Eckford, Jackson Central-Merry; Ben Gilbert, Oneida; Evan Plunkett, Mt. Pleasant; Brian Smith, Fairley.

Defensive backs: Easton Byars, Huntingdon; Keeton Evans, Riverside; Greg Hayes, Milan; Payton Neihaus, Summertown; Zae Odom, Cannon Co.

Athletes: Levi James, Oneida; Cooper White, Westmoreland.

Punter: Cody Brasher, Riverside.



The Huntingdon Mustangs were the runners-up in the Coca-Cola Classic. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner

Mustangs Runners-Up as Coca-Cola Classic Hosts

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

HUNTINGDON (December 27-30) — Huntingdon High School hosted its annual Point Guard Club Coca-Cola Classic with eight boys teams participating in three days of tournament action.

Friday’s winners played in semifinals on Saturday, while teams defeated on Friday played on in the lower bracket. The tournament wrapped up Monday with contests to determine seventh, fifth and third place, respectively, followed by the championship game between the host Mustangs and the USJ Bruins.

Championship: USJ Bruins 65, Huntingdon Mustangs 49

USJ had an 11-7 edge after the first frame, led by Mills Terry with six points. Reid Finney scored three points, and Wallace Driver had a pair. Mustang Kenton Smith scored four, and Bryson Whiteside hit a three-pointer.

Huntingdon stormed ahead with a 17-6 advantage in the second quarter, led by Smith with seven points, including a three-pointer. Caleb Ezell scored four, and Keeton Johnson hit a three. EJ Lewis had a pair, and Whiteside hit a free throw. Terry had all six Bruin points, including a three. At the half, the Mustangs led 24-17.

The Bruins regained the lead with a 25-10 tilt in the third, led by Terry with nine points. Corben Howard scored eight points. Driver had five points with a three, and Sam Keyl also hit a three-pointer. Ezell hit a three for Huntingdon. Wh-

iteside, Braylin Dearmon and Hayes Eubanks each had a pair, and Smith hit a freebie. Heading into the final frame, the Bruins led 42-34.

USJ sealed the title victory with a 23-15 fourth-quarter advantage, led by Keyl with nine points, including a three-pointer. Driver and Finney each scored five, Driver with a three. Terry and Howard each added a pair. Smith led Huntingdon with nine points, including a three. Ezell hit another three-pointer, Dearmon added a pair, and Whiteside hit a freebie.

Bruin Mills Terry led all scorers with 23 points, including a three-pointer. Wallace Driver and Sam Keyl each scored a dozen, each with a pair of threes. Corben Howard had ten points.

Kenton Smith led the Mustangs with 21 points, including a pair of threes. Caleb Ezell scored ten with a pair of threes.

Seventh Place: Lake County Falcons 64, West Carroll War Eagles 36

The Falcons led 21-11 after the opening frame and pulled away 20-2 in the second quarter to lead 41-13 at the half.

The War Eagles had a 12-9 edge in the third, but Lake County sealed a seventh-place finish with a 14-11 advantage in the fourth.

West Carroll’s Kayden Melton led all scorers with 23 points, including a trio of three-pointers. Skyler Wilhite scored eight with a pair of threes. Demarion Gilbert had four points, and Chandler Rimmer hit a free throw.

Camden Chamberlain led

the Falcons with 17 points. Jataveon Ricks scored 14, and Aikee Ward had seven with a three. Nigel Clark had six points. Xander Hartel and Cade Lanier each scored five, each with a three. Brady Smith had four points, and Tyquan Kinney, Eli Avery and Randy Demo each had a pair.

Semifinal: Mustangs 84, Yellowjackets 63

Huntingdon jumped out to a 27-12 lead after the first frame and had a 19-12 advantage in the second to lead 46-24 at the half.

Greenfield had a 20-18 edge in the third, but the Mustangs secured a spot in the championship with a 20-19 tilt in the fourth.

Mustang Kenton Smith led all scorers with 24 points, including a three-pointer. Caleb Ezell scored 20 with a trio of threes. EJ Lewis had 18 points with a pair of threes. Braylin Dearmon scored ten, and Bryson Whiteside had seven points with a three. Hayes Eubanks scored five.

Cruze Porter led the Yellowjackets with 21 points, including a pair of threes. Easton Sullivan had a dozen, and Nick Brown scored eleven with a three. Knox Liggett had seven points. Baker Biggs, Anthony Green and Caden Sparkman each scored four.

Lower Bracket: Rockets 58, War Eagles 40

Clarksburg had an 11-6 lead after the first frame. After a 12-12 wash in the second quarter, the Rockets led 23-18 at the half.

The Rockets had a 17-16 edge in the third and an 18-6

tilt in the fourth to claim a spot in the fifth-place game.

Clarksburg’s Trae Cobb led all scorers with 17 points. Kannon Hampton scored 16 with a three-pointer. Jake Miller had ten points, and Gabriel Derryberry had seven. Weston Vestal scored four, Clay Glosson had three points, and Chase Hollingshead hit a free throw.

Chandler Rimmer led West Carroll with 16 points. Kayden Melton scored ten. Isaiah Snyder and Mason Taylor each had five points, Demarion Gilbert had a pair, and Trey Williamson and Skyler Wilhite each hit a free throw.

Quarterfinal: Mustangs 75, War Eagles 20

Huntingdon jumped out to a 28-7 lead after the first frame and had a 16-2 advantage in the second for a 44-9 lead at the half.

The Mustangs enjoyed an 18-4 tilt in the third and sealed the win with a 13-7 edge in the fourth.

Mustang Kenton Smith led all scorers with 21 points, including a pair of threes. Hayes Eubanks scored seven with a three. Owen Kreuziger had six on a pair of threes, and EJ Lewis also scored six. Zayden Connelly and Kelton Johnson each had five, each with a three. Braylin Dearmon scored four points. Caleb Ezell and Bryson Whiteside each hit a three, and Kylan Turner also scored three points. Garvin Kee, Owen King, Jeramyah Cannon, Tyreke Hutch and Lucas Smith each had a pair.

* Full tournament coverage available online at mckenziebanner.com.

Fillies 2-1 as Coca-Cola Classic Hosts

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

HUNTINGDON (December 27-30) — Huntingdon High School hosted its annual Point Guard Club Coca-Cola Classic with six girls teams participating in three days of round-robin action.

When the dust settled, Gibson County was the lone unblemished team at 3-0. Host Huntingdon, Greenfield and Camden all finished 2-1, and Clarksburg and West Carroll were both 0-3.

Day 1: Huntingdon Fillies 87, West Carroll Lady War Eagles 24

The host Fillies controlled their first contest from start to finish. Advantages of 27-6 and 33-9 in the first two quarters gave Huntingdon a 60-15 halftime lead.

The Fillies cooled in the second half but added to their lead with a 16-9 edge in the third and an 11-0 shutout in the fourth.

Huntingdon’s Delaney Byars led all scorers with 22 points, including a three-pointer. Sara Beth Smith scored 16, and Knox Bennett had 13 points. Quinn Kelley had ten points with a pair of threes. Ellie Wilson scored nine with a three, and Josey Stokes had six points. Claire Cary and Camdyn Sellers each hit a three, and Grier Bartholomew also scored three points. Kaylen Cary had a pair.

Hailey Mitchell led West Carroll with nine points, including a pair of threes. Gracelyn Vernon scored seven, also with a three. Taylor Robinson had four points, and Chloe Rimmer and Marissa Mueller each had a pair.

Day 2: Lady Pioneers 66, Lady War Eagles 17

Gibson County shut out West Carroll 29-0 in the opening frame and had a 12-7 edge in the second quarter for a 41-7 lead at the break.

The Lady Pioneers had an

18-7 advantage in the third and capped the win with a 7-3 tilt in a quick fourth.

Lady Pioneer Sania Reaves led all scorers with 15 points. Georgia Lannom scored eight. Avery Hardin scored seven with a pair of threes. Emily Skinner had six points on a pair of threes, and Raven Wells also scored six. Jada Hunt and Bre’el Harris each scored five, each with a three. Akira Riding and Jazmin Bailey each scored four, Bailey with a three-pointer. Kaitlyn Patterson and Kailey Davidson each hit a three.

Chloe Rimmer led West Carroll with five points. Hailey Mitchell scored four, Gracelyn Vernon hit a three-pointer, and Taylor Robinson and Alayna Lovelace each had a pair.

Day 2: Fillies 62, Lady Yellowjackets 36

Huntingdon had a 17-14 edge after the opening frame and pulled away with a 17-4 advantage in the second for a 34-18 halftime lead.

The Fillies outscored Greenfield 19-9 in the third. The final frame was a 9-9 wash.

Huntingdon’s Sara Beth Smith led all scorers with 26 points. Delaney Byars scored 14 with a three-pointer. Knox Bennett had ten points with a three. Josey Stokes scored six on a pair of threes, and Quinn Kelley also had six points with one three-pointer.

Jayleigh Bowers and Ella Porter led Greenfield with 12 points each, Bowers on four three-pointers. Rayanna Fisher scored eight points, and Julie Lunsford and Maddi Paschall each had a pair.

Day 3: Lady Yellowjackets 60, Lady War Eagles 21

Greenfield pulled away early with advantages of 20-3 and 22-5 in the first two frames for a 42-8 lead at the half.

The Lady Yellowjackets had a 12-9 edge in the third and capped the win with a



Left, Huntingdon’s Delaney Byars finds an open lane against the Gibson County defense. Right, Quinn Kelley of the Fillies scores on a fast break against West Carroll. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner

6-4 tilt in the fourth.

Greenfield’s Rayanna Fisher led all scorers with 13 points, including a pair of three-pointers. Jayleigh Bowers scored 13, and Ella Porter had eleven with a three. Jerica Montgomery scored five with a three. Adlee Sullivan and Ashlyn Bryant each hit a three, and Campbell McCallistar also scored three points. Maddi Paschall and Madelyn Coble each had a pair, and Emma Capps hit a free throw.

Hailey Mitchell led West Carroll with eleven points, including a three. Gracelyn Vernon scored five with a three. Chloe Rimmer had four points, and Taylor Robinson hit a free throw.

Day 3: Lady Pioneers 54, Fillies 49

The girls’ contests closed with a thriller as a Huntingdon fourth-quarter rally came up just short.

Gibson County had a 13-12 edge after the opening frame, led by Akira Riding with seven points, including a three-pointer. Georgia Lannom scored four, and Emily Skinner had a pair. Sara Beth Smith scored ten for Huntingdon with a three, and Knox Bennett had a pair.

The Lady Pioneers doubled up the Fillies 14-7 in the second quarter, led by Lannom with four points.

Kailey Davidson hit a three, and Kaitlyn Patterson also scored three points. Riding and Sania Reaves had a pair. Delaney Byars scored four for Huntingdon, and Smith hit a three-pointer. At the half, the Lady Pioneers led 27-19.

Gibson County had a 16-14 edge in the third, led by Reaves with six points. Lannom scored five with a three, and Jada Hart also hit a three-pointer. Riding added a pair. Byars led the Fillies with six points. Josey Stokes scored five with a three, and Bennett also hit a three. Entering the final frame, the Lady Pioneers led 43-33.

Huntingdon rallied 16-11 in the fourth to cut the final deficit in half, led by Smith with nine points, including a three. Byars scored five with a three, and Bennett added a pair. Reaves scored eight for Gibson County, Skinner added a pair, and Riding hit a freebie.

The Fillies’ Sara Beth Smith led all scorers with 22 points, including a trio of threes. Delaney Byars scored 15 with a three.

Sania Reaves led Gibson County with 16 points. Georgia Lannom scored 13 with a three, and Akira Riding had a dozen, also with a three.

* Full tournament coverage available online at mckenziebanner.com.

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