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Trezevant Faced With Major Water System Upgrades

TREZEVANT (February 11) — The Town of Trezevant is facing major upgrades to its water and wastewater system to meet current regulatory requirements. Water systems consultant, Robert Kelley, said the needed upgrades could cost as much as $6 million over a several-year period.

Kelley, who has worked as a consultant with the city since 2020, said, "There's good news and there's bad news. This is the good news. You need three million dollars. And that's just for water, but it's all good news. Even though when I come back next month and tell you you need another $3 million in sewer, it's all good news," said Kelley.

Mr. Kelley said he would report monthly to the Board of Mayor and Council on the progress made.

Kelley said he personally would not drink the water.

Water Superintendent Erik Grimes had a different opinion, stating the water is testing as required and meets government standards. Grimes said he drinks the water each day.

See WATER on Page 3

AN EARTHQUAKE, RAIN, FLOODING, TORNADO, SNOW — ALL IN ONE WEEK

Above, Mayo Bottom on Highway 22 between McKenzie and Huntingdon was closed late Saturday afternoon and all day Sunday. Below, The spillway at Carroll Lake flowing heavily as it emptied into Clear Creek.

West Tennessee Affected by Heavy Rainfall, Flooding

TRI-COUNTIES (February 17) — Heavy rains and flooding swept through West Tennessee and much of the Southeast on Saturday, February 15. Now, the National Weather Service is predicting another weather challenge—heavy snowfall of three to five inches—from Tuesday noon to Wednesday noon.

The extreme weather caps off a turbulent week in West Tennessee,

See FLOODING on Page 3

McKenzie to Move Forward On Mulberry Soccer Complex

BY JASON R. MARTIN
jmartin@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (February 13) — The City of McKenzie has moved one step closer to the construction of a soccer complex to be located at Mulberry Park. Members of the City Council approved the master plan designed by TLM Associates of Jackson. The plan includes multiple fields, the construction of a concessions area, the construction of parking lots, the relocation of a portion of Locust Avenue and the potential purchase of residential property along Mulberry Street. The cost estimate is close to $400,000.

With the council's blessing, Mayor Ryan Griffin will continue working with TLM to procure an exact expense for the project over various phases. Currently, the Tennessee National Guard

See SOCCER on Page 3

McKenzie Mayor Ryan Griffin presents preliminary plans for the soccer complex at Mulberry Park.

Former Mayor Winchester Died Monday

McKENZIE — Funeral arrangements are incomplete for Walter Winchester. Military funeral services for Walter V. Winchester will be at Tennessee Veterans Cemetery at Parkers Crossroads later this week. A celebration of life at Bethel Missionary Baptist Church will also be announced later.

See MAYOR on Page 3

Tate Surber Is All-Time Leading Scorer For Rebels

McKENZIE — Tate Surber, a senior at McKenzie High School, is the all-time leading scorer for men's basketball at McKenzie High School.

See SURBER on Page 2

Brock Martin Addresses Legislative Issues

BY JOEL LANCASTER
jlancaster@mckenziebanner.com

HUNTINGDON (February 14) — State Representative Brock Martin kicked off the annual Capital Talks sponsored by the CC Chamber of Commerce on Friday, addressing key legislative issues, including the Education Freedom Act, state budget allocations,

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Left, In Weakley County, Mt. Pelia Road was closed for flooding. Right, An aerial photo of the Town of Rives in Obion County which was flooded after a levee on the Obion River was breached. *Submitted photo*

Flooding

...From Front Page

Left, Ashby Road in Henry was washed-out. Right, Clifty Road in Henry County had a severe washout.

which saw rain, snow, tornadoes, and even an earthquake with its epicenter in Jackson, Tenn.

Carroll County EMA Director Trevor Foster stated, "the area has experienced excessive rainfall following this past weekend's storm. While there have been no reports of significant damage, flooding impacted travel throughout the area. A sincere thank you to the Carroll County Highway Department, TDOT, and emergency personnel for their dedication to keeping our county safe. While we were fortunate to avoid significant damage, some of our neighboring communities were not as lucky. Please keep those affected in your thoughts and prayers as they recover. As we transition from heavy rainfall and tornadic activity to bitter cold temperatures, I urge everyone to begin preparing now for the frigid conditions ahead."

Roads Closed

Carroll County: Clyde Road, Grooms Road Bruceton side, Roundhouse Road (Bruceton), Main Street / Forrest Ave. (McKenzie), Smith Street / Carroll Street (McKenzie), Buena Vista / Cotton Lane (Bridge Area), Highway 190 / Oak Grove Road (Trezevant), Fry Road, Ephesus Church Road, Robinson Levee, Buena Vista Rd., Mt. Zion Church Rd., Highway 77 and 219, Roundhouse Road / Bruceton Vale Rd., Mayo Bottom - Highway 22 between McKenzie and Huntingdon. TDOT reported on Monday that Highway 22 at Mayo Bottom has reopened.

Henry County: N. Poplar between Greer St. and Guthrie Rd, Lone Oak between Hamlin and Winding Way.

In Obion County, Rives in Obion County is flooded after a levee on the Obion River was breached, water rescues were necessary as emergency teams from west Tennessee assisted.

Tornado warnings were issued Saturday evening, prompting Bethel University Library and the Carroll County Sheriff's Department to open certified storm shelters. An EF-2 tornado with 115 mph winds was reported near Bradford, causing damage to homes and downing trees.

As West Tennessee braces for another round of winter weather, residents are urged to stay alert, exercise caution on the roads, and prepare for freezing conditions.

Three Carroll Countians Among 2025 Sterling Award Winners

JACKSON (FEBRUARY 16) — Dr. Margaret Taylor, president of Jackson Area Business and Professional Women, has announced the winners of Sterling Awards 2025: 20 Most Influential Women in West Tennessee, the Outstanding Woman Military Veteran and the Sue Shelton White Award.

The 20 Most Influential Women in West Tennessee 2025 are: Carroll County, Lori Dillahunty, Brittany Martin, LaShonda Williams; Chester County, Courtney Bingham, Kim Morris; Hardeman County, Judge Harriet Thompson; Henderson County, Judge Mary Jowers; Madison County, Virginia Conger, Delois Dailey, Anita Hamilton, Mamie Hutcherson, Sarah Jones, Brenda Locke, Pam McCarty, Dr. Liz Mayo, Twana Miller, Angela Snider, Debbie Swacker; Tipton County, Rose Stemmons; and Weakley County, Rafielle Freeman.

Winning the 2025 Outstanding Woman Military Veteran Award is (Ret.) U.S. Navy Lt. Commander Peg McLean.

(L to R) Brittany Martin, LaShonda Williams and Lori Dillahunty of Carroll County were selected as 2025 Sterling Award recipients. *Photo courtesy of LaShonda Williams*

Winner of the 2025 Sue Shelton White Award is Sara Barnett of Jackson.

The Sterling Awards 2025 ceremony is 6 p.m., Tuesday, April 15, at the J. Walter Barnes Conference Center at Jackson-Madison County General Hospital. There is no fee to attend. A reception will follow the awards presentation.

For information about nominating women for the 2026 Sterling Awards, email Jacque Hillman, editor of the Sterling Awards magazine, at jacquehillman@gmail.com.

Craft Beer Taproom to Open In Downtown McKenzie

Revitalizing Rural Communities Through Craft Beer, Food, Community Spaces

McKENZIE — West Tennessee Brewing announces the opening of its first satellite taproom in downtown McKenzie, with an anticipated opening date of March 15, 2025. This family-friendly space, located at 27 Broadway, is set to become a community hub, blending the best of locally inspired food, seasonally craft beers, and a vision to reinvigorate rural downtowns in Northwest Tennessee.

The taproom will feature craft beers brewed by West Tennessee Brewing, including small-batch seasonal offerings made with locally sourced ingredients, alongside a curated menu of hot sandwiches, paninis, flatbreads, and unique items.

With seating for approximately 50 people, the space promises to be a cozy, inviting spot for locals and visitors alike. Plans are also in the works to expand into the neighboring building, possibly adding an indoor lawn game event space designed to be enjoyed by all ages.

Co-owner Anne-Marie Tanner, who also co-owns Paris Station, a 23,000-square-foot indoor lawn, restaurant, event space, and brewery in Paris, Tennessee, sees the opening as a vital step toward revitalizing the region's small downtowns. "It's critical for business owners to reinvest in our rural downtowns," Tanner emphasized. "Revitalization provides immediate benefits like food and beverage options, jobs, and economic development for downtown communities. But it also has a ripple effect—driving tourism dollars into the area and increasing traffic to other small businesses. A rising tide lifts all ships, and our goal is to create a network of restaurants/taprooms throughout Northwest Tennessee that celebrates local culture and supports regional growth."

According to the news release, West Tennessee Brewing's mission is deeply rooted in bringing people together. By connecting agriculture, food, beverage, and the culinary arts, the taproom aims to serve as a gathering place where community spirit thrives. As McKenzie continues its efforts to attract tourism and business, the addition of West Tennessee Brewing's taproom underscores the potential of reinvesting in rural areas to bring new life to historic downtowns. For more information about the opening or future updates, follow West Tennessee Brewing on West Tenn. Brewing Co. or www.westtnbrewing.com

About West Tennessee Brewing West Tennessee Brewing, headquartered at Paris Station in Paris, Tennessee, is dedicated to creating farm-forged craft beers that highlight the rich agricultural heritage of Northwest Tennessee. With a focus on sustainability, community, and quality, the brewery is committed to supporting small towns and creating memorable experiences for locals and visitors alike. Their brew master is Henry County native, John Lodge.

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Surber

...From Front Page

He scored his 1,651st point in his 30-point game against Milan surpassing the MHS record of 1,644-point record set by Chucky Haynes in 1985.

Surber is a three-sport athlete with football, baseball and basketball for the Rebels. He is the 2024 Mr. Football for Class 1A TSSAA.

Surber plans to continue his football career at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Huntingdon's Hunter Ensley is Featured on UT Network YouTube

UT Vols Chronicles Huntingdon's Hunter Ensley in a documentary on Youtube. Ensley was born in Alaska and moved to Huntingdon, Tenn.. where he was a two-sport top athlete in baseball and football.

The film "HUNTER" follows Tennessee center fielder Hunter Ensley's journey from his humble beginnings in Alaska and small-town West Tennessee to the bright lights of college baseball's biggest stage. Through exclusive interviews and behind-the-scenes access with Ensley, head coach Tony Vitello, and the voice of Tennessee Baseball John Wilkerson, the film chronicles his rise from hometown hero to Tennessee legend. He was a standout in the College World Baseball Championship in 2024.

It features his high school coaches, Eric Swenson and Alan Eubanks.

To watch the 45-minute documentary, go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TvO7wvzhTcc .

Martin

...From Front Page

and upcoming legislation. The event also recognized Youth Leadership Carroll County participants, with students later posing questions during the Q&A session.

A significant portion of the discussion focused on Martin's vote in favor of the Education Freedom Act, which expands school vouchers statewide. Several attendees questioned the decision, particularly regarding its impact on rural public schools.

Huntingdon Public Safety Director Walter Smothers asked, "How do you justify voting for that when so many of your constituents were opposed?"

Martin said that while vocal opposition existed, private conversations revealed more divided opinions. "I started getting texts and emails from people who said they weren't able to outwardly support it, but they did," Martin explained. He estimated that support and opposition were closer to 50/50 than overwhelmingly against.

Dr. Myles Hebrand strongly opposed the legislation, stating, "Public funds should go to public schools. Parents have always had a choice in where they send their kids, but this takes money away from the system meant to serve everyone."

Martin countered that the bill's funding mechanism prevents money from being pulled directly from public schools, arguing, "This is a pilot program funded through the general fund, not through TISA, and it allows us to test the concept while maintaining financial stability for public schools."

Concerns were also raised about the $2,000 teacher bonuses included in the bill. The funding requires local school boards to pass a resolution accepting the funds, which some criticized as undue pressure on districts.

"It feels like political coercion," one educator remarked. "Districts that oppose the bill have to sign on or risk denying their teachers extra pay."

Martin denied that the resolution was intended as a pressure tactic, saying, "It's simply a way to ensure the money goes directly to teachers rather than being absorbed into district budgets."

Concerns Over School Funding and Enrollment Decline

Dr. Justin Barden, director of McKenzie Special School District, raised concerns about long-term funding for rural schools and what happens when enrollment declines below sustainable levels.

"Once a school drops below a certain enrollment, it's nearly impossible to recover funding," Barden said. "At some point, rural schools will be forced to consolidate, and I don't see a real plan to prevent that."

Martin pointed to the bill's funding floor provision, which guarantees a minimum funding level despite enrollment changes. However, he acknowledged the risk of school closures over time.

"This isn't a two- or three-year issue. This is a 10-year issue," Martin said. "We're going to have to keep refining the policy and make sure rural schools aren't left behind."

Other Legislative Issues

Beyond education, Martin discussed several legislative priorities, including:

A rural ambulance reimbursement bill, updating rates that have remained unchanged since 2006.

$1 billion in new road funding, which Martin said was still insufficient to meet infrastructure needs.

Energy investments, including research into small nuclear reactors to meet growing electricity demand.

Affordable housing initiatives, with $60 million allocated to a starter home revolving loan fund to incentivize rural development.

Support for law enforcement, with $130 million directed toward police resources.

As the meeting concluded, the divide over the Education Freedom Act remained evident. While Martin maintained that the bill provides safeguards and options for families, local educators and officials continued to question its long-term effects on rural schools. Concerns over enrollment decline, funding stability, and the exclusion of some educators from teacher bonuses remained unresolved. The discussion underscored broader tensions over education policy, leaving both supporters and critics looking ahead to how the law will play out in practice.

Mayor

...From Front Page

Mr. Winchester, 78, died Monday, February 17, 2025, at his sister's residence. He is a member of Bethel Baptist Church; he is known by his friends and family as Walt, Bub, Mayor, Dad, Papa and Child of God. He was born on May 7, 1946, to Fonzo V. and Clara Marinda Myers Winchester.

He is survived by his wife, Kathy N. Winchester, a son, Joseph Walter (Karisa) Winchester, all of McKenzie, two sisters, Mary Kleet of McKenzie and Reba (Rich) Christoper of Adamsville, two brothers, James (Kay) Winchester of Memphis and Jimmy (Janet) Winchester of Milan and two granddaughters, Kambrea Winchester and Abigail Winchester.

He is preceded in death by his parents, his sisters, Josie Purvis, Clara Kesterson and Rebecca Winchester, and two brothers, Douglas Winchester and Roy Alford Winchester.

If you need further assistance, please call Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home at 731-352-4848 or visit our website at brummittmckenziefuneralhome.com.

Former McKenzie Mayor Walter Winchester was born in McKenzie and returned to his hometown after he traveled the world as a civil servant. He met his Alabama-born wife, Kathy in Germany when he served with the military. But the allure of living out of the U.S. ended as he returned back to McKenzie in 1995 with his wife and son, Joseph.

Winchester served as the mayor of McKenzie, first elected in November 2002 at the age of 56.

He had graduated McKenzie High School, attended Bethel College and served four years in the U.S. Air Force as a communications specialist. He attained a bachelor's degree in Recreational Administration and a Master's Degree in Education from the University of Georgia in 1974.

He worked as a civil servant from 1974 to 1995 in association with the U.S. Army and Navy. He had assignments in Alabama, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Italy, Germany, Australia, Scotland and Wales.

He moved his family from Wales to semi-retire in McKenzie, where he first worked with E.W. James Supermarket. That employment ended when he was elected as mayor.

Walter and wife, Kathy married in Kolding, Denmark. The beautiful little town in Denmark smelled of fresh cheese on that day. Walter announced his wedding through a postcard to his mom.

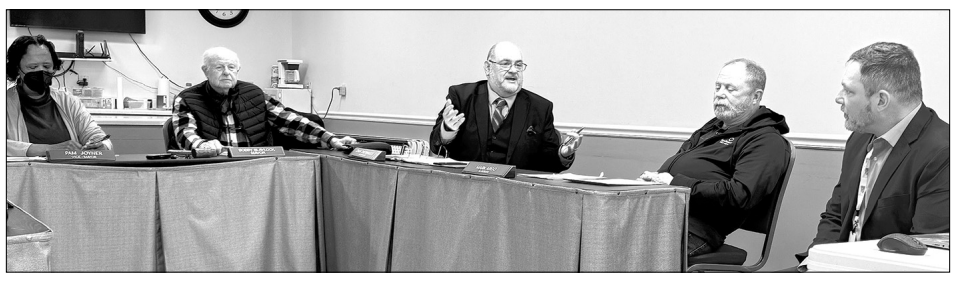
"Dear Mom," it read, "Smelled some cheese, ate some fish, saw a castle and got married. Love, Bub."

Winchester always had a sense of humor.

With each move, Kathy was able to use her background in education to teach.

Walter had a wonderful life of work and service. He recalled the time of growing up in McKenzie, one of nine siblings born to a sharecropper family. It was a simple life, with lots of hard work, but a cherished life of sharing the simple pleasures.

He and Kathy still continued to travel and serve their church, but always returned to his childhood home that they shared together.



Trezevant officials listen as Robert Kelley explains about the city's water system. (L to R) Pam Joyner, Mayor Bobby Blaylock, Dan Dieringer, Mark Argo and Kelley. Not pictured was Leon Lyell. Absent was Don Barger.

Water

...From Front Page

Other city officials also said they drink the city water.

Kelley provided an in-depth report of the city's needs and the estimated costs associated.

"We should be looking and prioritizing our needs based on what we can actually do with grant money," said Kelley.

Kelley recommended engineers immediately review the water system to implement a plan of action.

Grimes noted the city had engineers, who now refuse any attempt to communicate with city officials.

Recently, the city increased its water rates to anticipate needed improvements in future years better.

"The rate study, that we did, had us in five years with a lot of money that we don't have right now. So hopefully, we'll have a match for a federal grant. So what we need to do is prioritize what we need to do on wastewater right now, because once it (the outdoor temperature) gets hot, he (the water plant operator) is going to have to dump millions of gallons (of wastewater). And when he does, you guys are going to get federal violations."

Kelley supported his statements with charts of costs, life cycles of the operating equipment, and anticipated maintenance and replacement.

He recommended aerator pumps immediately be added at the wastewater lagoon.

The elevated water tank needs to be cleaned to eliminate the suspended solids inside the tank that eventually flow through the customers' water pipes.

Deep well number 2 needs to be replaced and dug to a deeper depth so that it does not pick up the solid water.

The clearwater tank, behind City Hall, must be replaced.

The overall outcome of

Robert Kelley, a consultant to the Town of Trezevant, presents information about the city's water and wastewater system.

the asset management provided expected lifespans of each asset in the water and wastewater system as established by the EPA.

Kelley said, "For instance, the elevated storage tank was installed in 1961, and according to the EPA's guidelines, this tank has a lifespan of only 60 years. Therefore, we recognize that it has reached the end of its expected life. However, we have undertaken maintenance and improvements to extend its lifespan. So even though the EPA would advise that our storage tank needs replacement based on its age, the condition of the tank reflects the effort we've put into maintaining it. It doesn't appear to be at the end of its life. We've painted it, kept it updated, and conducted regular inspections. It is made from quality materials, and it meets the criteria for a public water system storage facility. While there are minor defects—such as some issues with the float valve—the overall condition is excellent. I am confident that it will serve the next generation of residents in Trezevant.

"Now, let's examine the interior of the tank, which tells another story. I want to stress that our water system is not designed to meet current water treatment standards. It was built long before changes in regulations for public water systems were implemented. We are not filtering the water as we should be, and I will show you pictures to illustrate what needs to be done. I have compiled a prioritization of assets based on the insights from the workbook. However, as I have mentioned, I believe that immediate maintenance should be a priority. We must make changes to modernize the water system for the future."

Regarding the condition of the elevated storage tank, Kelley presented photographs showing the inside of the tank, where there are five or six inches of sediment accumulated.

"This tank holds finished water that is distributed to the public, and the presence of sediment is concerning. I'm bringing this to your attention because prioritizing maintenance is essential and cannot always be reflected in the asset management plan. If you were to ask me, your top priority should be addressing maintenance issues, with the asset management plan guiding you further. The sediment in the photographs indicates that your system is not designed to properly handle water treatment requirements. All that sediment should have been removed earlier in the treatment process. This is the final stage, and we need to ensure the water is clear before reaching consumers. The sediment should be eliminated during the initial stages of treatment through processes like filtration, aeration, and chlorination before the water reaches this tank and is delivered to the distribution system. To summarize, it is critical that you either implement flocculation or filtration to remove the sediment from your water effectively. This leads me to emphasize the need for addressing these priorities in the asset management plan.

To abandon well number 2 and drill another will cost $766,000, said Kelley. In 2023 and 2024, you spent $100,000 on pumps for well 2.

"I recommend we get engineers working on that and start applying for federal funding."

Kelley anticipates another water rate increase in 2027 or 2028.

Left, Jason Arnold (right) recently completed training to join the state's mental health strike team. Mayor Ryan Griffin (left) recognized his accomplishment. Right, Matthew Tanner discusses his plans for West TN Brewing Co. - McKenzie.

Soccer

...From Front Page

will help in some of the construction which would include roughing out the concessions area, relocating the section of Locust Avenue that would divide the complex and leveling out the portion of acreage that was donated by the McKenzie Industrial Board. The cost to relocate Locust is estimated to cost the City of McKenzie $180,000.

In other business, during the meeting of the Alcohol Board, Matthew Tanner, doing business as Paris Station, LLC was granted an on-premise beer permit for 27 Broadway. Tanner and his wife, Anne-Marie, were in attendance to discuss plans for the business. The Tanners explained that while the business, West TN Brewing Co. - McKenzie, will be a taproom, they want the business to be family-friendly. There are plans for food and live entertainment. They are also going to employ McKenzians on staff and plan to employ 15 individuals once the business is up and running at full capacity. The taproom is expected to be open towards the end of February or early March.

McKenzie will apply for a 2025 Community Block Development Grant. The grant will be applied for by the Water and Sewer Department for what they are terming "Fire Protection." Currently, the nearest fire hydrant to the sewer treatment facility is near Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home on Cedar Street. If awarded the $900,000 grant, water lines will be extended and tied together from Cedar (near Brummitt's and further south near the old Smith Tire Bard) to Clark Street and the treatment center. This would be around 5,600 feet of water lines added to McKenzie's infrastructure.

Fire Department Battalion Chief Jason Arnold was recognized for his selection to the Disaster Mental Health Strike Team. During the week of January 27, 2025, Arnold attended the Tennessee Fire and Codes Enforcement Academy and received 40 hours of training in preparation to serve on the strike team.

The Council will participate in a strategic planning/visioning session for April. Councilperson Bobby Young requested that Mayor Griffin consider using Paris Landing Inn, as the group could spend the night away and begin working the next morning. Griffin stated he would look into the cost of holding the session away from McKenzie.

The next regular meeting of the McKenzie City Council is March 13 at 6 p.m. at McKenzie City Hall.

HUNKER DOWN WITH KES

Four Seconds is Shorter Than You Think

A couple of friends got to talking about what they would do differently if they had their lives to live over. The conversation revolved around whether they would choose the same occupation, the same city to live in, maybe a different spouse, or one or two more children. Both agreed they would eat a lot healthier, hit the gym more, and would have quit cigarettes much earlier.

I listened politely, without adding anything to the discussion. I was already five hundred miles, and sixty-seven years, away. And my "do-over" would have been way more sensible!

It was 1958. I saw immediately that Buddy Wiggleton wasn't going to make it. I can't remember exactly whose idea it was to jump that big ditch down below our house. And listen, we were young, but not stupid. We had built a takeoff ramp out of some scrap lumber we'd found behind Archie Moore's barn.

We didn't understand aerodynamics worth a hoot. But we knew we needed a little lift to make it to the other side. The whole idea was to get airborne. And stay "up there" for the four seconds we guessed it would take.

We didn't know the word inertia either, but we knew full well we'd have to get a heck of a running start to get the bicycle up to a speed that would propel us across the ditch. If we backed up all the way to the road and got a running start down the hill….

Buddy was literally flying toward the ramp. I can see his little legs pumping those pedals like it was yesterday. I remember the grit and determination on his face; and that wry smile that seemed permanently attached to his lips. His bright red and dark blue St. Louis Cardinals baseball cap was lifted high off his head by the wind he created as he hurdled forward.

He hit the ramp dead center, with his silver Schwinn bicycle dead straight. He had immediate liftoff. And he was still pedaling like a madman even though his wheels had no purchase. It didn't take but one of the self-allotted four seconds to know he was in trouble.

The ditch was a mite wider than we had calculated. And, as he bounced off the far bank and careened downward, I realized it was more than a mite deeper. Boy howdy, he got close. But we weren't playing horseshoes.

We scrambled down to the bottom. Buddy was a bit shaken, but alive. His bike was wet and muddy from the small stream meandering down the ditch, but other than a bent front fender, it had made the trip ok.

Buddy didn't seem to notice the bruise on his arm or the blood trickling across the wry smile on his face, "Who's next?"

Everyone turned towards me.

"You are lighter than Buddy."

"We can add a couple of two-by-fours under the ramp to make the take-off point higher."

"Your bike doesn't weigh as much as Bud's."

How does that old Marty Robbins song go, "Many thoughts raced through my mind as I stood there…" in the middle of the road at the top of the hill. Buddy was a much better athlete than I would ever be. He was stronger. More agile. More courageous.

My goodness, from up here, that ramp looked about as wide as a number 2 pencil. This was not a good idea from the get-go. A quick analytical study of the situation laid out before me showed the far bank to be higher than the side I was taking off on. We are jumping this ditch backwards!

Buddy, Squeaky, Rick, and Yogi gave me a push to ensure my journey down the hill took off with a running start. The field was much bumpier than I had ever noticed. I was bouncing more than hurdling. And the closer I got, the smaller and higher the ramp became.

We'd never heard, at the time, of Einstein's definition of insanity. But I was absolutely practicing it. We also had no way of knowing Evil Knievel even existed. But I can guarantee you, he could not have made this jump on a souped-up, jet-propelled Western Flyer when he was eleven years old!

The front wheel caught a portion of the ramp. The back wheel missed completely. I, like Buddy, kept pedaling through the air when I should have been praying for wings, or a giant gust of wind, or the real Tarzan swinging down on a grapevine to save me….

I was trying to let go of the bike when my one-and-one-half seconds ended. I hit face first not hardly halfway up on the distant bank. I did a double backward somersault into the middle of the muddy stream below. For an instant there, I heard the "Sound of Silence" way better than those Simon and Garfunkel brothers could ever know.

Yeah, I'd like a do-over for sure! I wouldn't have this scar high on my forehead or the reoccurring pain in my sacroiliac because I would have nixed any thought of being part of such a stupid idea. I would have been, however, safely behind Yogi's bike, giving him a running start on HIS attempt to fly across the big ditch….

Respectfully,
Kes

LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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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.

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Battalion Chief Jason Arnold Works To Improve Mental Health Support

BY JOEL LANCASTER
jlancaster@mckenziebanner.com

McKenzie — Battalion Chief Jason Arnold has joined Tennessee's statewide crisis response strike team, a unit formed under the Tennessee Fire Chaplains Association and the Department of Health. The team provides mental health and crisis support to first responders and the public during natural disasters and emergencies.

Arnold, a lifelong McKenzie resident, recently completed training for the team and says it gave him valuable insight. "I gained a lot of knowledge about helping first responders cope with difficult calls and crisis situations," he said. "We're also trained to assist the public in times of natural disasters, like tornadoes and floods."

The strike team began forming in 2019, though its operations were impacted by COVID-19. Since then, members have been deployed across Tennessee and beyond, responding to severe flooding, tornadoes, and other large-scale disasters. Arnold is one of only two members in Carroll County, alongside Brandy Baumgartner of the Carroll County Rescue Squad.

One of the biggest challenges Arnold faces in McKenzie is responding to calls involving people he knows personally. "It's tough when you've lived here your whole life," he said. "Some of the calls hit close to home, and that can be hard on our responders."

A key part of his role is conducting debriefings for firefighters, paramedics, and other first responders after traumatic calls. "If one of our guys is struggling, I can sit down with them one-on-one or help facilitate a debriefing," Arnold explained. "We also assist departments across the state."

Arnold has developed a strong interest in mental health support for emergency personnel. He's considering pursuing a master's degree in clinical counseling, focusing on first responder mental health.

"Most of the older guys in it, it's all 'suck it up, buttercup, go on with it.' But, I mean, it's a problem. You can't just go on with it. You have to talk to somebody," Arnold said.

His perspective on mental health shifted after a death in the community. "We had a debriefing after that, and it really opened my eyes to how much this matters," he said. While he's interested in possibly opening a counseling service for first responders in the future, he clarified that this is a long-term goal, not an active project at this time.

Looking ahead, Arnold hopes to increase resources for first responders in Carroll County. One idea being discussed is a responder support trailer that would provide essential rest facilities—including a restroom, hot water, cold water, and a shower—for emergency crews deployed on long disaster response missions.

"We'd keep it stationed here in McKenzie, and if it's needed anywhere in Tennessee, I could transport it as part of the strike team," Arnold said. "It could also be used at local festivals and community events." He emphasized that this idea is still in early discussions, but they are exploring funding options.

McKenzie and Carroll County are fortunate to have Arnold in this critical role, providing essential support to first responders and the community. His work in mental health advocacy, disaster response, and first responder care is already making an impact locally and across the state.

For those interested in learning more about the strike team's work, Arnold recommends visiting the Tennessee Fire Chaplains Association's website at www.tffc.org. The site provides details on training, deployment efforts, and mental health resources for emergency responders.

THE WIT AND WISDOM OF DAVID JOHNSON

Love Finds A Way

I pulled into Mother's driveway, my headlights sweeping the front of her house. It was my regular Wednesday night visit to check and see how she was doing.

After Daddy died ten years earlier, she moved to the town where I live. My weekly visits weren't because she was scared to be alone or was a weak, dependent person. In fact, she was the opposite of all those traits.

I visited because she was dying. Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma, its specific name, wouldn't cause most people to give pause. But its general name — cancer — causes blood to run cold in the bravest.

Mama did the chemo and radiation route and got an eighteen-month reprieve. But it roared back with a vengeance and she made the decision not to go through anymore treatments.

My brothers, sister and I didn't try to change her mind on that issue. Let her meet life, or death, on her terms, we said.

As I softly knocked and eased in through the back door, I saw mama sitting in her chair reading. The chemo changed her normally soft auburn hair into a coarse, salt-and-pepper version.

Sensing my presence, she looked up.

"Well hello there," she said with a smile.

"Hi mama. How are you doing?"

"A little tired. But I've had a good day."

I checked to see if she had food in her refrigerator and looked for evidence that she was eating well. Satisfied with my search results, I sat across from her on the couch.

"How are Brenda and the girls?" she asked.

"Everyone is doing good. Busy as usual."

Then mother began her usual rundown of all the family members she had talked to and updated me on all the happenings. Maybe it's because she worked as a switchboard operator in college that she ended up being the central point of communication in our family.

Silence filled a pause in our conversation.

A look of concern flirted across her face. There was something on her mind. Without a prompt on my part she began.

"David, something's bothering me. I know I'm dying and don't have a lot of time left. I wish there was something I could do to make things right between me and Martha Ann. She knows I'm sick, but I haven't heard a word from her."

I think, Why do people feel the need at the end of life to torment themselves with reaching resolution on every unresolved, sometimes unresolveable issue across the course of their life?

There were three sisters. All born in the 1920's and all their names started with an "M" — Mayme, Martin, and Martha Ann. Their parents had hoped Martin was going to be a boy, so they stuck with the name they had chosen. She was my mother.

The girls grew up during the Depression — the real one. Sharing chores on their farm in Kentucky created ample opportunities for experiences that would bond them for life.

They all had an easy laugh, though mama seemed to be the most serious of the three.

One passion they shared when they were grown was their family.

Spending vacations with my cousins, whether camping, or visiting at Grandy's (my grandfather) house, or staying a week at Mayme's farm, was a regular part of my life. My siblings and cousins would play hide-and-seek in Uncle George's corn field, shoot basketball in the hayloft of the barn, ride horses, or play in the creek.

Watching my dad and uncles, through the haze of their cigar smoke, play a hotly contested game of Rook would occupy me until bedtime. Once in bed, I could still hear their good-natured hollering and laughing through the thin walls of my bedroom.

For more than fifty years, these sisters were close. But something changed. Distance grew between my mother and Martha Ann. They shared fewer and fewer phone calls and letters.

How do people who lived and loved and shared their lives have a falling out? What creates the space? I never knew exactly what happened, and still don't. I don't have to. The reason is not important to me.

To mother I said, "I know that has to bother you. But there's only so much one person can do to make things right. Remember your father's favorite chapter of the Bible? Romans 12? It says, 'If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.' There're some important qualifiers in that thought — an if and an as far as."

She gave me a patronizing smile. Me telling her what the Bible said. That was pretty presumptuous of me.

"I know that," she said. "It just seems like there ought to be something else I could do."

"Here's a suggestion, mama. Why don't you write Martha a letter and just tell her how you feel? Tell her what you want. Then it'll be up to her. You'll have done all you can do."

With a little more energy in her voice, mama says, "That's a good idea."

Before the night ended, she penned her letter. The next morning, she placed it in the mailbox. Then she waited.

When I saw mama on Sunday, she had extra color in her cheeks and a twinkle in her eye.

"Guess who called me last night. Martha Ann! She said she wants to come see me!"

"Wow," I replied. "That's amazing. But do you think you're up to a visit?"

"It doesn't matter. I invited her to come. She'll be here Tuesday and is going to stay for a few days."

A sense of resolution truly eased her burdened heart.

For four days the two sisters engaged in a whirlwind of activity. I'd call to check on them, but often found them gone — off on another jaunt. When I did get to talk to them, they were so full of happiness and peace, I found myself not caring if Martha Ann's visit was fatiguing mother.

A good night's rest can revive a fatigued body. But a fatigued spirit often requires the touch of God.

Mother called me the night of Martha's departure. "Well, she left this afternoon."

"Are you exhausted?"

"Yes, but I don't care. I don't have that many more days anyway. But I've got to tell you the most amazing thing about her visit. I kept waiting for her to talk with me about the things I'd put in my letter to her. But I didn't want to push it, or break the spell, so I kept quiet. Finally, as we were saying our goodbyes, I couldn't hold back. So I asked her, 'Martha Ann, what did you think about the things I said in my letter?'"

A chill ran up my back and across my scalp. Somehow, I sensed what she was going to tell me.

"What'd she say mama?"

"She said, 'What letter? What are you talking about?'" David, she hadn't even gotten my letter. Isn't God good?"

With misty eyes I replied, "Yes He is mama. Yes He is.\

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Obituaries

WALTER V. WINCHESTER
1946 — 2025

McKENZIE, Tenn. — Funeral arrangements are incomplete for Walter Winchester. Military funeral services for Walter V. Winchester will be at Tennessee Veterans Cemetery at Parkers Crossroads later this week. A celebration of life at Bethel Missionary Baptist Church will also be announced later.

Mr. Winchester, 78, died Monday, February 17, 2025, at his sister's residence. He is a member of Bethel Baptist Church; he is known by his friends and family as Walt, Bub, Mayor, Dad, Papa and Child of God. He was born on May 7, 1946, to Fonzo V. and Clara Marinda Myers Winchester.

He is survived by his wife, Kathy N. Winchester, a son, Joseph Walter (Karisa) Winchester, all of McKenzie, two sisters, Mary Kleet of McKenzie and Reba (Rich) Christoper of Adamsville, two brothers, James (Kay) Winchester of Memphis and Jimmy (Janet) Winchester of Milan and two granddaughters, Kambrea Winchester and Abigail Winchester.

He is preceded in death by his parents, his sisters, Josie Purvis, Clara Kesterson and Rebecca Winchester, and two brothers, Douglas Winchester and Roy Alford Winchester.

If you need further assistance, please call Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home at 731-352-4848 or visit our website at brummittmckenziefuneralhome.com.

Former McKenzie Mayor Walter Winchester was born in McKenzie and returned to his hometown after he traveled the world as a civil servant. He met his Alabama-born wife, Kathy in Germany when he served with the military. But the allure of living out of the U.S. ended as he returned back to McKenzie in 1995 with his wife and son, Joseph.

Winchester served as the mayor of McKenzie, first elected in November 2002 at the age of 56.

He had graduated McKenzie High School, attended Bethel College and served four years in the U.S. Air Force as a communications specialist. He attained a bachelor's degree in Recreational Administration and a Master's Degree in Education from the University of Georgia in 1974.

He worked as a civil servant from 1974 to 1995 in association with the U.S. Army and Navy. He had assignments in Alabama, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Italy, Germany, Australia, Scotland and Wales.

He moved his family from Wales to semi-retire in McKenzie, where he first worked with E.W. James Supermarket. That employment ended when he was elected as mayor.

Walter and wife, Kathy married in Kolding, Denmark. The beautiful little town in Denmark smelled of fresh cheese on that day. Walter announced his wedding through a postcard to his mom.

"Dear Mom," it read, "Smelled some cheese, ate some fish, saw a castle and got married. Love, Bub."

Winchester always had a sense of humor.

With each move, Kathy was able to use her background in education to teach.

Walter had a wonderful life of work and service. He recalled the time of growing up in McKenzie, one of nine siblings born to a sharecropper family. It was a simple life, with lots of hard work, but a cherished life of sharing the simple pleasures.

He and Kathy still continued to travel and serve their church, but always returned to his childhood home that they shared together.

RAY HUDGINS
1948 — 2025

McLEMORESVILLE — Graveside funeral services for Ray Hudgins were Friday, February 14, 2025, at McLemoresville Cemetery at 1:30 p.m.

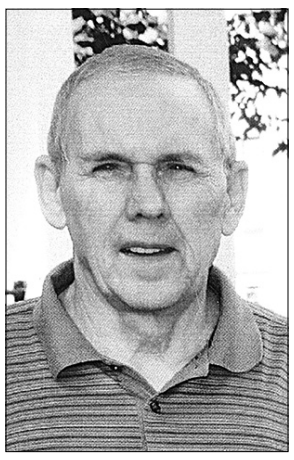
Mr. Hudgins, 77, died Sunday, February 9, 2025, at his residence.

He was born on January 24, 1948, in McKenzie to Olin and Lorene Coleman Hudgins.

He is survived by his children, Bert (Lizz) Hudgins of Greenfield, Matt (Brandy Greer) Hudgins of McKenize, and Chad (Jolene) Hudgins of Paris, a sister, Doris Davis of McKenzie and brother, Jimmy Hudgins of McKenzie, seven grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents, his wives, Ann Hudgins and Julia Ward Hudgins, four sisters, Reni Flood, Helen Shell, Mary Sue Cook, and Linda Jackson and one brother, Elroy Hudgins.

If you need further assistance, please call Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home at 731-352-4848 or visit our website at brummittmckenziefuneralhome.com.



CHARLIE PAUL MASSEY
1939 — 2025

HUNTINGDON — Mr. Charlie Paul Massey, 85, of Huntingdon, died Sunday, February 9, 2025, at Life Care Center of Bruceton.

Funeral services were 11 a.m. on Saturday, February 15, 2025, in the Chapel of Dilday-Carter Funeral Home. Interment was at Carroll Memorial Gardens. Brother Randy Thompson officiated.

Charlie was born December 10, 1939, to the late Floyd Graden "Mutt" Massey and Lou Inez Chandler Massey. He is also preceded in death by Jeanette Massey; brothers, James Harvey Massey, Neil Stanley Massey, Franklin Delano Massey, Lee Daniel "LD" Massey and Floyd Junior Massey; sisters, Joyce Evelyn Massey Butler, Peggy Sue Massey and Cynthia Faye Massey.

Charlie was a Huntingdon Missionary Baptist Church member and a 1958 graduate of Huntingdon High School. He also attended Ephesus Elementary and Cannon Elementary Schools. Charlie graduated from Southern Graphic Vocational School in Nashville, where he studied printing. He worked for The Tennessee Republican newspaper in Huntingdon and The McKenzie Banner newspaper for over 51 years.

He is survived by daughters Michelle (Steven) Lowery of Lebanon, Tenn., and Karen (Mike) Heyduck of Murfreesboro; son Stuart (Kim) Massey of Bells, Tenn.; sisters, Judy Massey Lowery of Camden, and Wanda Faye Massey Burdan of Cedar Lake, Ind.; eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Dilday-Carter Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

TRANNIE ELIZABETH WOODSON
1938 — 2025

JACKSON (Formerly of McKenzie) — Mrs. Trannie Elizabeth Woodson, 86, of Jackson, died Sunday, February 9, 2025, at Jackson Madison County General Hospital.

Funeral services were Thursday, February 13, 2025, in the Chapel of Chase Funeral Home with Bro. Tim Osborne officiated the service. Burial was in Marlowe Cemetery in Fruitvale

Mrs. Ball was born July 4, 1938, in Crockett County, Tenn., to the late James Thomas Woodson Sr. and Theadora Elizabeth (Burrow) Woodson. She was a member of Seventh Day Adventist Church and was a retired Director of Health Information for Henry County Medical Center.

Besides her parents, she was also preceded in death by her husband, Clyde Cleveland Ball, a sister, Ruth Kelly and a brother, James Woodson Jr.

She is survived by a daughter, Jacqueline Locker of Nolensville, a stepdaughter, Susan Ashley Mattin (John) of Frankfort, Ky., two sons, Paul Blenis II of Jackson and John Blenis of Greenfield, a stepson, Clyde Ball (Lori) of Portland, Oregon, a brother, Dwayne M. Woodson (Carole) of McKenzie, seventeen grandchildren, six great-grandchildren.

Chase Funeral Home, Huntingdon.

JULIA CARROLL
1937 — 2025

HUNTINGDON — Mrs. Julia Dorothea Carroll, 87, of Huntingdon, died Monday, February 10, 2025, at Huntingdon Health and Rehab.

Mrs. Julia Carroll was born on April 29, 1937, in St. Louis, Mo. Julia worked and retired from Disney World after 25 years.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Harold Carroll, a daughter, Susan Fama and a son, Mark Carroll.

She is survived by a son, Ricky Carroll (Jennifer) of Kissimmee, Fla., a daughter, Tina Pitts (Frank) of South Fulton, Ky., four grandsons, thirteen great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Chase Funeral Home.

MYRTLE ALLEN
1933 — 2025

Myrtle Mae Morris Allen, 91, died February 10, 2025, at Crestwood Medical Center in Huntsville, Ala.

She was born on April 7, 1933, to Andrew "Andy" and Myrtle (Morris) Morris of McKenzie.

In 1948, she married Calvin Allen, relocating in 1950 to Paducah, Ky.

She is survived by her daughter, Julia Yvonne Allen Winnett (Warren) Wilson of Fort Payne, Ala.; one granddaughter; two great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandson.

Myrtle was preceded in death by her husband, Calvin Thomas Allen; siblings, Jimmy Morris, Mattie Lee Morris Winston, L.B. Morris, Bessie Morris Allen, and James Henry Morris.

There will be no visitation or service. Mrs. Allen was buried beside her husband at Enon Baptist Church at 13025 US 79, McKenzie, on Sunday, February 16, 2025.

Ridgeway Funeral Home.

Inglenook Book Club

Lakeside Senior Living Community in McKenzie was where the Inglenook Book Club held its February 12 meeting at 3 p.m., with 19 ladies in attendance. President Gail Mack called the meeting to order at 3 p.m. She thanked the hostesses Jean Hollomon and Suzanne Russell for serving delicious strawberry pretzel salad, along with chocolates and assorted beverages. The Pledge of Allegiance, Club Aim and Motto were recited by all. The February birthday ladies are Marilynn Putman and Sandi McMahen.

Roll call was taken, followed by the reading of the December minutes. Motion to approve the minutes by Jean Hollomon and seconded by Victoria Ard with an affirming vote. Treasurer Donna Ward gave the treasurer's report, which was also approved as read. President Mack called upon each committee chair to give updates, and she thanked everyone for all they do, and especially reminding us of the next meeting date, time, location, and what to bring for school donations.

In old business, the group was congratulated for winning 1st place in the Carroll Arts Trivia Bowl held in January. Geneva Johnson mentioned that today was the last day to get tickets for the upcoming Hearts & Harmony Dinner and Music which is Saturday, February 15 at 6 p.m. at the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, McKenzie. Tickets are $15. There was mention of the new bookstore coming to McKenzie soon. Also mentioned that member, Mona Batchelor will be getting her book published. The McKenzie Banner had a clipping in today's paper from McKenzie Elementary School Faculty and Staff, thanking the Inglenook Book Club ladies for all the donations they give for the children monthly. There was no other business to discuss, so President Mack called on Peggy Chappell to present her program.

Peggy spoke to the group on New York Times best-selling author of historical fiction writer-Ariel Lawhon. She has assisted in the relaunch of "The Boom Tide', on Facebook which is dedicated to helping readers find books they love... while in the background is the strange, wonderful world of publishing. Very good program, and a lot of interesting information Mary Newman continued with book passing. The next book passing date is February 26.

The next meeting is on March 12, at 3 p.m., at Lakeside. Hostesses will be Mona Batchelor and Shirley Martin. The program will be presented by Carolyn Moore. Reminder to bring assorted individually wrapped food snack items for the school. The Benediction was recited by all, and the meeting adjourned. Members present were Victoria Ard, Mona Batchelor, Peggy Chappell, Joyce Hayes, Jean Hollomon, Suzanne Howell, Geneva Johnson, Jean McKinnie, Gail Mack, Shirley Martin, Carolyn Moore, Beverly Mueller, Mary Newman, Marilynn Putman, Suzanne Russell, Genia Sherwood, Donna Ward, Elaine Williams, and Jenny Wilson. Respectfully submitted by Recording Secretary, Beverly Mueller

Cabbage Soup

1 head of cabbage, chopped
3 medium carrots
1 polish sausage
1 teaspoon red pepper
Salt to taste

Put cabbage in a pan with water (about 1 1/2 inches above cabbage). Slice carrots and sausage and add to cabbage. Add pepper and salt. Bring to a boil, turn down on medium heat. Cook 45 to 60 minutes. Let set until ready to eat.

Cheesy Chowder

1/4 cup of butter
1/3 cup of flour
Medium onion, minced
2 cups of milk
1 (15 oz.) can of chicken broth
1/4 teaspoon hot sauce
1/4 teaspoon pepper
1 tablespoon parsley
2 cans of veg-all, drained
8 oz. Velveeta cheese, cut in small pieces

Saute onions in butter, add flour until blended, add milk and broth, and cook until it begins to thicken. Add cheese stirring until cheese melts. Add hot sauce, pepper, parsley, and Veg-All. Serve hot. Soup can be frozen to serve later.

Baked Potato Soup

12 slices of bacon
2/3 cup margarine
7 cups of milk
4 large baked potatoes, peeled and cubed
4 green onions
1 1/4 cups of shredded cheddar cheese
1 cup sour cream
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon black pepper

Fry bacon until crispy, drain, crumble, and set aside. In a stockpot or Dutch oven melt the margarine over medium heat. Whisk in flour until smooth. Gradually stir in milk whisking constantly until thickened. Stir in potatoes and onions. Bring to a boil stirring frequently. Reduce heat and simmer 10 minutes. Mix in bacon, cheese, sour cream, salt and pepper. Continue cooking, stirring frequently until cheese is melted. Makes 6 servings.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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BLACK HISTORY PROGRAM AT WEBB SCHOOL

Carroll County Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration Committee presents a Black History Celebration Saturday, March 1 at 2 p.m. at Webb School in McKenzie. Since 1988, the committee has sponsored programs dedicated to the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and other patriots who paved the way for black America. The mission of our committee is to revitalize "the dream" and to share with our youth and adults our past, present and future endeavors. Our Keynote speaker is. Mr. Willie Huffman. Mr. Huffman is a county commissioner; he also was president of Tennessee College of Applied Technology until his retirement. He and his wife Gloria reside in McKenzie. Musical selection will be rendered by New Reedy Creek Youth Choir. Mrs. Carolyn Cozart will also be performing. There will be vendors and food trucks set up.

MISS UTM RODEO PAGEANT

The University of Tennessee at Martin Rodeo Booster Club sponsors the Miss UTM Rodeo Pageant Saturday, March 8 in the Westview High School theater at 8161 Hwy 45 South, Martin. The pageant is open to all girls ages 0-20. Contestants will be judged in formal/evening gown only. Doors open at 10 a.m. with pageants as follows: 0-12 months at 11 a.m., 1-3 years at 11:30 a.m., 4-6 years at 12 noon, 7-9 years at 12:30 p.m., 10-12 years at 1 p.m., 13-15 years at 1:30 p.m., and 16-20 years at 2 p.m. Registration is at the door only, $40 for beauty only with side categories available for additional cost. Winner of the 16-20 division required to participate in UTM Rodeo Week activities and is eligible to compete in Territorial Queens Review/Strawberry Festival. Junior, Teen and Miss Division Queens will be recognized at UTM Rodeo Performances April 17, 18, and 19. The proceeds of the pageant are 100 percent donated to the UTM Rodeo Scholarship Fund. For more information, contact Beth Weldon at (731) 225-1227.

HUNTINGDON CROSS COUNTY/TRACK ST. PADDY'S RUN, WALK

The Huntingdon Cross Country and Track and Field teams host a St. Paddy's 1K, 5K Run/Walk on Sunday, March 16 at 2 p.m. at Huntingdon Middle School. Entry fee is $25. Entries may be mailed to Elizabeth Lott, HHS, 475 Mustang Drive, Huntingdon, TN 38344. Please print legibly and include name, age on race day, date of birth, gender, address, telephone number, email and t-shirt size. Make all checks and money orders payable to HGSF: Cross Country/Track and Field. To be guaranteed a short sleeve t-shirt, please register by March 5. Age group awards will be given at the completion of the race.

ONE SOUND CHOIR REUNION AT GREATER ENON

A One Sound Choir reunion is Sunday, March 23 at the 10 a.m. morning worship service a Greater Enon Missionary Baptist Church, 313 East Walnut Ave., McKenzie.

UPCOMING DATES, EVENTS

The following list of events was provided by Carroll County Chamber of Commerce. Specific information about events may be available at a later date.

March 10-14 — Bethel University Spring Break.

March 24-28 — Carroll County Schools Spring Break.

May 1 — National Day of Prayer.

May 3 — Carroll County Sports Hall of Fame and Bethel University Spring Commencement.

May 17 — Bruceton in May.

May 22 — Chamber Golf Tournament.

May 22 — Last day of school spring semester.

May 26 — Huntingdon and McKenzie Memorial Day Celebrations.

June 28 — Eastview Fireworks Celebration.

July 4 — McKenzie and McLemoresville July 4th Celebrations.

August 5 — 2025-2026 school year begins.

August 22-23 — McKenzie Sweet Tea Festival.

September 27 — Huntingdon Heritage Festival.

October 13-17 — Fall Break.

October 27 — County Chamber Banquet.

November 7-8 — Carroll County Christmas Market.

November 24 — Ducks Unlimited Banquet.

December 19 — Last day of fall semester.

CAPITOL TALK DATES RELEASED

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce announced upcoming dates for "Capitol Talk" with local state elected officials at the Carroll County Civic Center. Representative Tandy Darby will speak on Friday, March 14. Senator John Stevens will be at the center on Friday, April 11. Events start at 8 a.m. with remarks from 8:10-8:30 a.m. and question and answer from 8:30-9 a.m.

McKENZIE INDUSTRIAL BOARD TO MEET

The McKenzie Industrial Board meets Thursday, February 20, 2025, for training with the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development. Janna Hellum is the presenter.

The Mayor and council members are invited and encouraged to participate in this meeting and learn about economic development in Tennessee.

The meeting is at 6 p.m. at The RailYard, Broadway Street, Downtown McKenzie.

BAPTIST CARROLL COUNTY TO HOST PREVENTATIVE HEALTH LUNCHEON

Friday, February 21, noon to 1 p.m. — When it comes to your heart health there are many things you can do to minimize your chances of developing cardiovascular disease.

Our free, one hour lunch event, led by Baptist Carroll County's Cindy Cole, RN and certified diabetes educator, and Amber Bradley, RN, will help you learn how to improve your heart health by being proactive in your care.

We'll cover:

• Understanding your risk factors (family history, cholesterol, blood pressure).

• The importance of routine heart screenings and what tests to consider.

• How to recognize early warning signs of a heart attack or stroke.

• Heart-healthy lifestyle tips, including diet, exercise and stress management.

• New medical advancements.

To reserve your spot, please call 731-986-4461 or email sarah.pitcher@bmhcc.org. Baptist Memorial Hospital, Carroll County.

HIGH SCHOOL CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS APRIL 12

Carroll Arts, Inc. presents the Celebration of the Arts, an event showcasing Carroll County high school students involved in the arts, will be held on Saturday, April 12 at The Dixie Carter Performing Arts Center in Huntingdon. The celebration is open to all high school students in Carroll County to exhibit or perform in the areas of visual arts, music, and drama. Performers will take to The Dixie stage to display their talents and artwork will be prominently displayed in the gallery. The art exhibit starts at 6:30 p.m. and performances start at 7 p.m. If students are interested in participating, please reach out to your school's art, drama, band, or guidance counselor.

Carroll Arts, Inc. is a non-profit dedicated to shining a light on the arts in Carroll County, Tenn. To learn more, e-mail carrollartsinc@gmail.com.

Other upcoming events include: An Evening with Carroll Arts is June 21; The Creativity Camp for Carroll County elementary and middle school students is July 7-11; Southern Fried Funnies during McKenzie's Sweet Tea Festival in August; Storytelling during the Huntingdon Heritage Festival in September; A Mistletoe Christmas Program during McKenzie's Christmas Celebration in December; and the 15th Annual Trivia Bowl in January 2026.

LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

The Northwest Tenn. Economic Development Council is accepting applications for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program. This program assists low-income households through direct energy payments to their energy provider. Individuals interested in applying for the LIHEAP Program should make an appointment at the Northwest TN Economic Development Council office in their county of residence. Go to our website for county site contact information: nwcommunityaction.org.

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.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

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 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.

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Wed. 7:30
Thurs. 7:30

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Tues. 7:35
Wed. 7:35
Thurs. 7:35

LOVE HURTS (R)
Tues. 7:35
Wed. 7:35
Thurs. 7:35

HEART EYES (R)
Tues. 7:30
Wed. 7:30
Thurs. 7:30

DOG MAN (PG)
Tues. 7:25
Wed. 7:25
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the West Carroll 3-2-1 Update

February 2025

3-Exciting Highlights & Developments

- The West Carroll Spirit Box Store is Officially Open! This student-run business offers school-branded merchandise, everyday essentials, and more. Sales from the store go directly back into the business program.
- Exciting School Renovations Moving Forward: Our renovation projects at all three schools are progressing smoothly! Plans for the elementary & primary school are 90% complete, with final approvals expected soon.
- CTE & Beta Club Students Preparing for State Competitions: West Carroll Career and Technical Education (CTE) and Beta Club students are gearing up for major state-level competitions. From leadership challenges to hands-on projects, these students are demonstrating their skills & dedication.

2-Principal Quotes

"We are excited to host Pastries with Parents on Valentine's Day. It's a great opportunity for our students and parents to connect while enjoying breakfast together." - Dr. Jessica Williams, West Carroll Elementary School Principal

"I am so excited to host Alex Beene again for our students for an ACT workshop. Mr. Beene gives our students the tools and skills to be successful on the ACT and other entrance exams." - Dr. Adam Douglas, WCHS Principal; (ACT workshop is February 22nd.)

1-Community Challenge

Email the answer to these riddles to preston.caldwell@wcssd.org.

- I have a neck, but no head. I have two arms, but no hands. What am I?
- I'm not a blanket, yet I cover the ground; a crystal from heaven that doesn't make a sound. What am I?
- I'm sweet and cold with a stick to hold; a treat on a hot day, worth more than gold. What am I?
- I am easy to lift, but hard to throw. What am I?

To another great month of learning,
Preston Caldwell

wcssd.com/321

Download WCSSD Connect

A3150/7-1

Bethel Alum Dianne Dennis is Black History Guest Speaker

Bethel University alum Dianne Dennis will speak in honor of Black History Month at the Dickey Fine Arts Building on Tuesday, February 25 at 11 a.m.

Dennis is a motivational speaker, freelance writer, entrepreneur and CEO of Dennis Public Relations. The Kentucky native graduated from Bethel in 2003 and went on to earn a Masters at Bethel and has also attended Capella University and Austin Peay.

Dennis has served non-profits including People Helping People, the American Red Cross and Team Rubicon and has volunteered on countless other humanitarian endeavors.

She currently resides in Hopkinsville.

Bethel Alumna Dianne Dennis

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McKenzie Alumni Association To Award Two Scholarships

The McKenzie High School Alumni Association (MHSAA) is offering $1,000 scholarships for two 2025 graduates of McKenzie High School. Interested applicants must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 and a minimum ACT score of 21. All applicants must be planning to continue their education and career training after graduation by attending either a college or technical school.

The recipients will be selected by the MHSAA Scholarship Committee, which will evaluate based on both educational merits and community involvement.

The deadline to apply is 3 p.m. on Friday, March 14, 2025, and applications are available at the MHS guidance office.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Left, Lady War Eagle Chloe Rimmer blows by two defenders for two points. Right, War Eagle Chandler Rimmer leans back to shoot over a Bradford defender. *Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner*

Left, War Eagle Kayden Melton draws contact on his way to the basket for a three-point opportunity. Right, Lady War Eagle Hailey Mitchell puts a rebound back up for two points. *Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner*

West Carroll Swept by Bradford on Homecoming

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

ATWOOD (February 13) — West Carroll High School celebrated Homecoming Thursday and hosted Bradford for a pair of district basketball contests. The Lady War Eagles kept the game in reach but fell to the Lady Red Devils, 52-41. The Red Devils pulled away early for a 53-28 win.

Bradford Lady Red Devils 52, West Carroll Lady War Eagles 41

The Lady Red Devils led 11-7 after the opening frame, led by Mya Page with five points. Ashlyn Reynolds hit a three-pointer, Abby Glisson had a pair, and Brooklyn Armstong hit a free throw. Lady War Eagle Gracelyn Vernon hit a three, and Hailey Mitchell and Aubrey Hammett each had a pair.

Bradford had a 12-8 edge in the second quarter, led by Armstrong with seven points. Glisson scored five with a three-pointer. Chloe Rimmer scored six for West Carroll, including a three. Alayna Lovelace and Triniti Adkisson each hit a free throw. At the half, Bradford led 23-15.

The Lady Red Devils had a 16-9 advantage in the third, led by Princess Cain with seven points, including a three. Glisson and Armstrong each hit a three-pointer, and Page added a pair. Mitchell led West Carroll with five points, and Vernon scored four with a three-pointer. Entering the final frame, Bradford led 39-24.

The Lady War Eagles rallied 17-13 in the fourth for a closer final, led by Vernon with nine points, including a three. Hammett and Taylor Robinson each scored three points, and Mitchell added a pair. Cain led Bradford with seven points, including a three-pointer. Armstrong scored four, and Page and Glisson each hit a freebie.

Lady War Eagle Gracelyn Vernon led all scorers with 16 points, including a trio of threes. Hailey Mitchell scored nine points.

Princess Cain and Brooklyn Armstong led Bradford with 15 points each, Cain with a pair of threes and Armstrong with one. Abby Glisson scored eleven with a pair of threes.

Red Devils 53, War Eagles 28

Bradford led 10-4 after the first frame, led by Carver Cates with five points, including a three-pointer. Jax Richardson also hit a three, and Jax Street had a pair. War Eagles Kayden Melton and Mason Taylor each had a pair.

The Red Devils had an 18-4 advantage in the second quarter, led by Cates with six points on a pair of threes. Quacey Lewis scored five with a three. Richardson had three points, and Street and Brodie McDaniel each had a pair. Taylor and Trinden Kirby each had a pair for West Carroll. At the half, the Red Devils led 28-8.

Bradford doubled up the War Eagles 12-6 in the third. Street and Cates each scored six, both on a pair of threes. Melton scored four for West Carroll, and Chandler Rimmer had a pair. Heading into the final frame, the Red Devils led 40-14.

The War Eagles had a 14-13 edge in the fourth, led by Taylor with eight points. Ryder Krawczyk scored four, and Rimmer added a pair. Braxton Lynch scored ten for Bradford with a pair of three-pointers. E. Marrand hit a three.

Red Devil Carver Cates led all scorers with 17 points, including five three-pointers. Jax Street and Braxton Lynch each scored ten, both with a pair of threes.

Mason Taylor led West Carroll with 12 points.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

1. War Eagle Isaiah Snyder draws contact and finishes the shot for a three-point play. 2. West Carroll senior basketball players and cheerleaders were honored before the games. Pictured are (L to R): War Eagle Ryder Krawczyk, escorted by grandparents Mike and Terri Krawczyk, cheerleader Hannah Fowler, escorted by parents Jeremy and Brittany Fowler, cheerleader Bailey Rogers, escorted by parents Daniel and Kelly Rogers, and War Eagle Kayden Melton, escorted by parents Dameon and Mary Melton. 3. Lady Rocket Maleigha Abdallah gets a shot in just ahead of a defender's play on the ball. Abdallah led all scorers with 16 points. 4. Lady War Eagle Gracelyn Vernon scores on a fast break. 5. Lady War Eagle Aubrey Hammett drives to the basket for two points. 6. Rocket Gabriel Derryberry goes back up with a rebound for two points. 7. War Eagle Kayden Melton pulls up for a jumper in the paint. *Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner*

West Carroll Swept by Clarksburg on Senior Night

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebannner.com

ATWOOD (February 10) — West Carroll High School celebrated Senior Night Monday prior to a pair of basketball contests against Clarksburg. Two senior cheerleaders and two War Eagle players were honored on the court, joined by family members.

The festivities were followed by a long night of basketball that saw players shoot a total of 149 free throws in the two games. Ultimately, the visiting teams came out on top. After trailing at the half, the Lady Rockets pulled ahead in the third for a 57-50 win. The Rockets built an early lead en route to a 56-41 win.

West Carroll senior cheerleaders honored were Hannah Fowler, escorted by parents Jeremy and Brittany Fowler, and Bailey Rogers, escorted by parents Daniel and Kelly Rogers.

War Eagle seniors honored were Ryder Krawczyk, escorted by grandparents Mike and Terri Krawczyk, and Kayden Melton, escorted by parents Dameon and Mary Melton.

Clarksburg Lady Rockets 57, West Carroll Lady War Eagles 50

The Lady War Eagles led 19-15 after the opening frame, led by Chloe Rimmer with ten points, including a three-pointer. Gracelyn Vernon scored six points, also with a three. Alayna Lovelace had a pair, and Aubrey Hammett hit a free throw. Lady Rocket Libby Autry scored four points. Sam Segraves hit a three-pointer, and Maleigha Abdallah and Carlie Swinford each scored three points. Molly Williams had a pair.

West Carroll had a 14-13 edge in the second quarter, led by Vernon and Hailey Mitchell with four points each. Rimmer scored three, Lovelace added a pair, and Hammett hit another freebie. Abdallah led Clarksburg with six points. Addison Milam scored three, and Cari Glosson had a pair. Autry and Swinford each hit a free throw. At the half, the Lady War Eagles led 33-28.

The Lady Rockets took the lead with a 20-8 advantage in the third, led by Segraves with nine points, including a three. Abdallah scored five, and Swinford had four points. Glosson and McKenna Bolen each hit a free throw. Lady War Eagle Triniti Adkisson scored five points. Taylor Robinson had a pair, and Abbi O'Bryan hit a free throw. Entering the final frame, Clarksburg led 48-41.

The fourth was a 9-9 wash. Mitchell led West Carroll with four points. Vernon hit a three, and Hammett added a pair. Milam hit a three for the Lady Rockets, and Autry, Abdallah and Glosson each added a pair.

Lady Rocket Maleigha Abdallah led all scorers with 16 points. Sam Segraves scored a dozen with a pair of threes.

Chloe Rimmer and Gracelyn Vernon led West Carroll with 13 points each, Vernon with a pair of threes and Rimmer with one.

Rockets 56, War Eagles 41

Clarksburg had a 15-8 lead after the first frame. Rocket Reagan Halter hit a three-pointer, and Trae Cobb and Nathan Steel each had three points. Jake Miller and Erin Dickson each had a pair, and Chase Hollingshead and C. Hollowell each hit a free throw. Kayden Melton scored seven for West Carroll, and Mason Taylor hit a free throw.

The Rockets had a 14-5 advantage in the second quarter, led by Gabriel Derryberry with six points. Cobb scored four, and Miller added a pair. Clay Glosson and Connor Allen each hit a free throw. Melton and Taylor each added a pair for the War Eagles, and Chandler Rimmer hit a free throw. At the half, the Rockets led 29-13.

Clarksburg had an 8-6 edge in the third, led by Weston Vestal with four points. Cobb added a pair, and Derryberry and Dickson each hit a freebie. War Eagle Isaiah Snyder scored four points, and Taylor added a pair. Heading into the final frame, the Rockets led 37-19.

West Carroll rallied 22-19 in the fourth for a closer final score, led by Snyder with ten points. Rimmer and Melton each scored five, Rimmer with a three-pointer. Taylor added a pair. Miller and Cobb each scored five for Clarksburg, Miller with a three. Hollingshead had four points, Derryberry and Dickson each added a pair, and Halter hit a free throw.

Kayden Melton and Isaiah Snyder led West Carroll with 14 points each.

Trae Cobb led Clarksburg with 14 points.

Freed-Hardeman University Announces Locals on Fall 2024 President's, Dean's List

HENDERSON (February 17) — Freed-Hardeman University released the names of students who made the President's and Dean's Lists for the Fall 2024 semester. To be on the President's List, a student must be full-time and have a 4.0 grade point average. Students on the Dean's List have earned a minimum 3.4 grade point average for the semester.

The following students are included on the lists: **President's List** — Jon Williams, of Westport; Lilly Kee, of Huntingdon; Michael Moon, of Martin; and Nathan King, of Huntingdon. **Dean's List** — Angelina Barr, of Martin; Dylan Totty, of Martin; Ellie Cullbreath, of Huntingdon; Grace Guarino, of Paris; Hannah Qualls, of Sharon; J.T. Moore, of Westport; Mariah Bryant, of McLemoresville; Megan Wood, of Springville; and Skylar Grimaud, of Dresden.

The mission of Freed-Hardeman University is to help students develop their God-given talents for His glory by empowering them with an education that integrates Christian faith, scholarship and service. With locations in Henderson and Memphis, FHU offers associate, bachelor's, master's, specialist's and doctoral degrees. More information is available at fhu.edu.

TCAT Henry/Carroll Prepares for SkillsUSA Competitions

The Tennessee College of Applied Technology Henry/Carroll is preparing to send a total of 35 contestants to the State SkillsUSA Competition in April at the Chattanooga Convention Center.

The main campus in Paris is sending 22 contestants and the McKenzie campus is sending 13 contestants.

The two campuses merged last fall to become one institution, TCAT Henry/Carroll. Both campuses have a rich history in SkillsUSA, winning medals at the state and national competitions. This will be the first year they are competing as one school in the April 13-16 event.

In addition to the large number of contestants, TCAT Henry/Carroll also has a state officer again this year. Tanner Ashlock, a Residential Building Maintenance student, is serving as the SkillsUSA Tennessee Postsecondary Treasurer, and he will be on stage both for the opening ceremony and the awards ceremony.

TCAT Henry/Carroll provides competency-based training that qualifies completers for employment and job advancement in career and technical fields. They contribute to the economic and community development of the community, and partner with community, business, and industry leaders to supply highly skilled workers in areas of need.

TCAT Henry/Carroll President John Penn Ridgeway has been a long-time supporter of SkillsUSA. "His leadership has been the guiding force for sending this many contestants and advisors to competition this year," stated Donald Drinkard, SkillsUSA lead advisor for the Paris campus.

The school has a limited budget for the contests, and the expense will be huge.

"We are presently planning more fundraisers on both campuses in March and announcing those soon on the school's Facebook page. We hope to get the community involved in supporting our efforts," Drinkard said. "If any community member wants to make a donation, you can call the school at (731) 644-7365. Any amount would be appreciated."

SkillsUSA's vision is to produce the most highly skilled workforce in the world. SkillsUSA champions the skilled trades and empowers students to become skilled professionals, career-ready leaders, and responsible community leaders. With a membership of over 400,000, SkillsUSA serves students in over 130 occupational areas.

Left, SkillsUSA officers, other students and staff wear Skills colors (red and Navy blue) on Friday. *Photo courtesy TCAT* **Right, TCAT SkillsUSA officers, sponsors and special guests at Wednesday's breakfast (L to R): Sitting – SkillsUSA State Director Daphne Brown (former student services coordinator at McKenzie), TCAT Henry/Carroll Vice President Jan Latimer and SkillsUSA State Officer Coach Mike Johnson. Standing – SkillsUSA Student Vice President Sergio Campos, Student Secretary Kalyn Wall, Student Historian Robert McCaig, Student President Brantley Nanney and advisor Brittany Twilbeck.** *Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner*

TCAT-McKenzie Celebrates SkillsUSA Week

BY JOEL LANCASTER AND BRAD SAM
banner@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (February 3-7) — SkillsUSA officers, other students, staff and special guests at TCAT Henry/Carroll's McKenzie campus celebrated SkillsUSA Week with events and activities each day.

On Monday, officers and advisors were recognized and treated to a potluck. Three officers were awarded for outstanding service at their position. Kalyn Wall is the 2024-25 TCAT Henry/Carroll SkillsUSA Student Secretary. Brantley Nanney is the student president, and Nick Abbot is the student treasurer.

Tuesday, officers Wall, Nanney, Paisley Allen, Sergio Campos and Robert McCaig did community service at the Carroll County Humane Society.

Wednesday, the campus hosted a Breakfast for Industry, inviting area high school principals and CTE directors along with the school's industry partners.

Thursday, the student body gathered for presentations by the officers. The student leaders discussed their recent events, leadership training, and community outreach efforts.

The meeting recapped their first major event, the TCAT Halloween Bash, which featured a pumpkin carving contest, costume competition, and chili cook-off. Vice President Sergio Campos noted how the event strengthened teamwork among students.

Also highlighted was participation in statewide leadership training, where the officers connected with peers from other TCAT campuses, including representatives from Puerto Rico.

Community service efforts were highlighted, including a veterans breakfast, a canned food drive that collected 4,850 cans, and the aforementioned volunteer work at the Carroll County Humane Society.

Additionally, students attended a financial literacy seminar led by Christy Williams of Regions Bank, focusing on credit management and budgeting.

The gathering concluded with plans for future leadership training and career networking events.

Friday was SkillsUSA Color Day. Any students that wore Skills colors (red or Navy blue) was treated to a free doughnut.

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. SkillsUSA helps each student excel by providing educational programs, events and competitions that support career and technical education (CTE) in the nation's classrooms.

SkillsUSA officers did community service at the Carroll County Humane Society Tuesday. Pictured are (L to R): CCHS Secretary Beverly Wilson, Paisley Allen (with Duke), Kalyn Wall, Sergio Campos, Robert McCaig and Brantley Nanney. *Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner*

Left, Young cheer enthusiasts who attended the recent Taylor's Cheer Camp performed at halftime Monday. Right, Participants in the recent Taylor's Cheer Camp show what they learned, led by MHS cheerleaders. *Photos by Joel Washburn/The Banner*

McKenzie High Splits Nailbiters with Camden

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebannner.com

McKENZIE (February 10) — McKenzie High School hosted Camden Monday for a pair of basketball contests. The Lady Rebels shook off a slow start and pulled off a thrilling comeback to win 44-43. A similar rally by the Rebels came up just short in a 59-58 loss.

During halftime, the young participants in the annual Taylor's Cheer Camp held recently showed what they had learned with a routine led by the MHS cheerleaders. The camp is held each year in honor of Taylor Buckley, an MHS cheerleader who died in a car accident in 2011 at age 16, and funds the Taylor Buckley Memorial Scholarship.

McKenzie Lady Rebels 44, Camden Lady Lions 43

The Lady Lions blanked McKenzie 13-0 in the opening frame, led by Miley Hartney with six points on a pair of three-pointers. Addie Melton scored five with a three, and Abbi Grace Wallace had a pair.

The Lady Rebels cut into the deficit with a 12-5 advantage in the second quarter, with Molly French scoring all 12 points, including a trio of three-pointers. Hartney hit a three for Camden, and Bailey Berry had a pair. At the half, the Lady Lions led 18-12.

McKenzie had a 15-11 edge in the third, led by Ava Hastings with six points on a pair of threes. French and Sophie Pate each hit a three, and Aurora Johnson also scored three points. Lady Lion Emma Pierce scored six points. Hartney and Berry each added a pair, and Carson Douglas hit a free throw. Entering the final frame, Camden led 29-27.

The Lady Rebels completed the comeback with a 17-14 tilt in the fourth, led by Jaycee Stafford with nine points, including a three. Hastings scored six on a pair of threes, Pate added a pair, and French hit a freebie. Wallace led Camden with seven points, including a three. Melton scored four points, Hartney added a pair, and Pierce hit a free throw.

Lady Rebel Molly French led all scorers with 16 points, including four three-pointers. Ava Hastings scored a dozen on four threes.

Miley Hartney led the Lady Lions with 13 points, including a trio of threes.

Lions 59, Rebels 58

The first frame was a 12-12 wash. Rebels Tate Surber and Landon Brown each scored four points, and Cole Brown and Carter Kee each had a pair. Jake Reynoldson led Camden with six points. Isaac Moore scored four, and Nowah Porter had a pair.

The Lions pulled ahead with a 26-18 advantage in the second quarter, led by Porter with ten points, including a pair of threes. Brady Morris scored six on a pair of threes. Reynoldson had four points, and Jake Barker hit a three. Ayden Melton had a pair, and Moore hit a free throw. Surber scored six for McKenzie with a three. Craegen Travis had four points. L. Brown and Kee each hit a three, and C. Brown added a pair. At the half, the Lions led 38-30.

Camden had a 13-9 edge in the third, led by Melton with nine points, including a three-pointer. Moore and Gage Johnson each had a pair. Surber scored four Rebel points, Kee hit a three, and KD Cunningham had a pair. Heading into the final frame, Camden led 51-39.

McKenzie's rally in the fourth came up just short at 19-8, led by Kee with eight points, including a pair of threes. C. Brown, Surber and L. Brown each hit a three, and Travis added a pair. Reynoldson hit a three for Camden, and Porter also scored three points. Moore added a pair.

Rebel Tate Surber led all scorers with 17 points, including a pair of threes. Carter Kee scored 16 with four three-pointers.

Nowah Porter led the Lions with 15 points, including a three. Jake Reynoldson scored 13, also with a three.

Left, The McKenzie High School cheerleaders wore their Taylor's Cheer Camp shirts for Monday's games. Center, Lady Rebel Braylin Auvenshine looks to pass around the Camden defender closely guarding her. Right, Rebel Carter Kee eyes the basket as he floats in front of a Camden defender. *Photos by Joel Washburn/The Banner*

District Tournaments This Week, Weather Prompts Changes

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

The high school basketball regular season has ended, and district tournaments begin this week for area teams. The potential for winter weather on Tuesday, February 18 has already prompted some changes to game times, and further changes could be necessary later in the week depending on accumulation and road conditions.

Several games were played Monday, February 17 after The Banner's press deadline but prior to publication.

District 12A

With just four teams, District 12A begins with semifinal games on Monday and Tuesday hosted by the higher seed.

The two-seed McKenzie Lady Rebels hosted three-seed Houston County Monday, while the four-seed Central Lady Tigers traveled to top-seed McEwen.

The losing teams will play in the consolation game Friday, February 21 at 6 p.m. at McKenzie High School, followed immediately by the championship game.

The Central Tigers, also the four-seed, traveled with their lady counterparts Monday as they also faced McEwen's top-seeded boys, playing a day early to avoid the weather.

McKenzie's three-seed boys travel to two-seed Houston County High School in Erin Tuesday at 6 p.m.

The boys consolation and championship games are Saturday, February 22 at McKenzie High School at 3 p.m.

District 13A

With six teams, District 13A tournaments begin with satellite games at higher seeds and byes for the top two seeds. West Carroll hosts the semifinal and final rounds.

The six-seed West Carroll Lady War Eagles traveled to three-seed Clarksburg Monday, while five-seed Halls traveled to four-seed Bradford.

Top-seed Middleton awaits the winner of Bradford/Halls at 6 p.m. Thursday, February 20, followed by two-seed Humboldt facing Clarksburg or West Carroll.

The consolation and championship games begin Saturday at 6 p.m.

The six-seed West Carroll War Eagles travel to three-seed Halls Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. while five-seed Clarksburg goes to four-seed Bradford.

Top-seed Humboldt awaits the winner of Bradford/Clarksburg Friday at 6 p.m. followed by two-seed Middleton facing Halls or West Carroll.

The consolation and championship games begin Monday, February 24 at 6 p.m.

District 14A

The six teams in District 14A begin tournament play with satellite games at higher seeds and byes for the top two seeds. The semifinal and final rounds will be played at Bethel University's Crisp Arena.

The four-seed Gleason Lady Bulldogs hosted five-seed Lake County Monday, while three-seed Union City hosted six-seed South Fulton.

Top-seed Dresden awaits the winner of Gleason/Lake County at 6 p.m. Friday, followed by two-seed Greenfield facing Union City or South Fulton.

The consolation and championship games begin Monday at 6 p.m.

The three-seed Lake County Falcons host six-seed Greenfield Tuesday at 5 p.m., while the four-seed Dresden Lions host five-seed South Fulton at 6:30 p.m.

Top-seed Union City awaits the winner of Dresden/South Fulton Saturday at 7 p.m., followed by two-seed Gleason facing Lake County or Greenfield.

The consolation and championship games begin Tuesday, February 25 at 6 p.m.

District 12AA

The four-team District 12AA tournaments are hosted by Stewart County, beginning with semifinal games on Monday and Tuesday.

The top-seed Huntingdon Fillies face four-seed Waverly Monday at 6 p.m., followed by three-seed Camden and two-seed Stewart County.

The consolation and championship games begin Friday at 6 p.m.

The top-seed Huntingdon Mustangs face four-seed Stewart County Tuesday at 3:30 p.m., followed immediately by three-seed Camden and two-seed Waverly.

The consolation and championship games begin Saturday at 6 p.m.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Senior basketball players, managers and cheerleaders with their families. *Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner*

McKenzie Sweeps Milan on Senior Night

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebannner.com

McKENZIE (February 11) — McKenzie High School celebrated Senior Night Tuesday and earned a decisive sweep over visiting Milan. Fourteen senior players, managers and cheerleaders were honored prior to the games, joined on the court by family members.

The Lady Rebels pulled away in the third for a 55-38 win, and the Rebels also solidified their 61-39 victory with a strong third quarter performance.

In the pregame ceremony, senior Lady Rebel Sophie Pate was escorted by parents Chandra Pate and Joel and Amanda Pate. Manager Jacey Pinson was escorted by parents Jason and Jennifer Pinson.

Rebel Landon Brown was escorted by parents Allen and Tonya Brown. KD Cunningham was escorted by parents Trell and Raven Tharpe. Carter Kee was escorted by parents Josh and Courtney Kee. Landyn Smith was escorted by father Kendall Smith and grandparents Larry Joe and Tiffany Smith. Tate Surber was escorted by parents Tommy and Meredith Surber. Craegen Travis was escorted by parents Jennifer Travis and Brian Travis. Manager Kyla Beveridge was escorted by sisters Payton Lamonte, Andra Herrin and Teyrn Beveridge. Ally Gibson was escorted by parents Brent and Alycia Gibson.

Cheerleader Baylee Barden was escorted by parents Dr. Justin and Allyson Barden. Reese Gallimore was escorted by parents Kevin and Kim Gallimore. Lydia Pate was escorted by parents Jeremy and Gina Pate. Laila Scott was escorted by parents Michael and Latisha Scott.

McKenzie Lady Rebels 55, Milan Lady Bulldogs 38

The Lady Rebels had a 17-15 lead after the opening frame, led by Molly French with seven points, including a pair of three-pointers. Jaycee Stafford scored four, and Sophie Pate hit a three. Braylin Auvenshine had a pair, and Aurora Johnson hit a free throw. Lady Bulldog Akayah Hyde scored four points. Raela Curry had three points. Piper DePriest, Allie Grant, Tieanna Adkisson and CoCo Thomas each had a pair.

McKenzie had an 11-8 edge in the second quarter, led by Stafford with seven points, including a three. Ava Hastings scored four, also with a three. Grant led Milan with five points, including a three. Curry added a pair, and DePriest hit a free throw. At the half, McKenzie led 28-23.

The Lady Rebels had a 17-8 advantage in the third, led by Stafford with seven points, again with a three-pointer. Auvenshine scored four points with a three, and Hastings and French each hit a three. DePriest, Grant, Curry and Tara Neely each had a pair for Milan. Entering the final frame, the Lady Rebels led 45-31.

McKenzie capped the win with a 10-7 tilt in the fourth, led by Stafford with five points, including a three. Pate hit another three-pointer, and Johnson added a pair. Curry, Aaliyah Stephens and Jaliyah Hale each scored two Milan points, and Adkisson hit a freebie.

Lady Rebel Jaycee Stafford led all scorers with 23 points, including a trio of three-pointers. Molly French scored ten, also with a trio of threes.

Allie Grant and Raela Curry led the Lady Bulldogs with nine points each, Grant with a three-pointer.

Rebels 61, Bulldogs 39

Milan had an 11-9 edge after the first frame, led by Kaleb Moore and Izaia Clark with four points each. Skylan Phinnessee hit a three-pointer. Tate Surber led McKenzie with five points, including a three. Craegen Travis scored four points.

The Rebels took the lead with a 16-11 advantage in the second quarter, led by Surber and Carter Kee with six points each. Cole Brown scored four. Bulldog Jayden Brown scored four points. Nants Lickliter hit a three, and Keondre Hawkins and Adrian Spain each had a pair. At the half, the Rebels led 25-22.

McKenzie pulled away 18-6 in the third, led by Surber with eight points. Landon Brown scored six, and C. Brown had four points. Phinnessee hit a three for Milan, Moore added a pair, and Clark hit a free throw. Heading into the final frame, McKenzie led 43-28.

The Rebels sealed the victory with an 18-11 tilt in the fourth, led by Surber with eleven points, including a pair of threes. Kee scored five with a three, and Travis added a pair. Phinnessee scored five with a three for Milan. Clark had four points, and Moore added a pair.

Rebel Tate Surber led all scorers with 30 points, including a trio of three-pointers. Carter Kee scored eleven with a three.

Skylan Phinnessee led Milan with eleven points, including a trio of threes.

Senior basketball players, managers and cheerleaders (L to R) Front Row: Reese Gallimore, Baylee Barden, Kyla Beveridge, Laila Scott, Lydia Pate, Sophie Pate, Jacey Pinson and Ally Gibson. Back Row: Tate Surber, Carter Kee, KD Cunningham, Landon Brown, Craegen Travis and Landyn Smith. *Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner*

Left, Lady Rebel Jaycee Stafford pulls up for a midrange jumper. Stafford led all scorers with 23 points. Right, Rebel Tate Surber goes strong to the basket in double coverage. Surber led all scorers with 30 points. *Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner*

McKenzie High School Sweeps West Carroll

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebannner.com

ATWOOD (February 14) — West Carroll High School hosted McKenzie Friday for a pair of basketball contests, wrapping up the regular season for both schools. The visitors pulled away early in both games. The Lady Rebels won 51-36 in the opener, and the Rebels took the nightcap, 57-19.

McKenzie Lady Rebels 51, West Carroll Lady War Eagles 36

The Lady Rebels jumped out to a 19-2 lead after the opening frame, led by Jaycee Stafford with ten points. Molly French scored six with a three-pointer, and Sophie Pate also hit a three. Hailey Mitchell had a pair for West Carroll.

The Lady War Eagles had a 16-13 edge in the second quarter, led by Gracelyn Vernon with eight points, including a pair of three-pointers. Mitchell scored six, and Abbi O'Bryan had a pair. Stafford scored nine for McKenzie, and French and Aurora Johnson each had a pair. At the half, the Lady Rebels led 32-18.

McKenzie had a 10-7 advantage in the third, led by Stafford with five points, including a three. Ava Hastings also hit a three, and French added a pair. Vernon hit a three for the Lady War Eagles, and Mitchell and Aubrey Hammett each had a pair. Entering the final frame, the Lady Rebels led 42-25.

West Carroll shrunk the final deficit with an 11-9 tilt in the fourth, led by Vernon with eight points, including a pair of threes. Chloe Rimmer also hit a three. Lady Rebel Zayda Scates hit a three, and Stafford also scored three points. Pate added a pair, and Kallie Hudgins hit a free throw.

Lady Rebel Jaycee Stafford led all scorers with 27 points, including a three-pointer. Molly French scored ten with a three.

Gracelyn Vernon led West Carroll with 19 points, including five three-pointers. Hailey Mitchell scored ten points.

Rebels 57, War Eagles 19

McKenzie led 11-7 after the first frame, led by Tate Surber with six points. Cole Brown scored five with a three-pointer. War Eagle Chandler Rimmer hit a three, and Kayden Melton and Mason Taylor each had a pair.

The Rebels had a 19-6 advantage in the second quarter, led by C. Brown with eight points, including a pair of threes. Surber scored five points. Avery Brown had four, and Craegen Travis had a pair. Taylor led West Carroll with four points, and Melton added a pair. At the half, the Rebels led 30-13.

McKenzie enjoyed an 18-2 tilt in the third, led by Surber with six points, including a three. A. Brown scored four, C. Brown and Carter Kee each hit a three, and Travis added a pair. Rimmer had a pair for the War Eagles. Heading into the final frame, McKenzie led 48-15.

The Rebels capped the win in a quick, 9-4 fourth, led by Surber with four points. Kason Brown and Cooper Davidson each had a pair, and KD Cunningham hit a free throw. Melton had all four West Carroll points.

Rebel Tate Surber led all scorers with 21 points, including a three. Cole Brown scored 16 with four three-pointers.

Kayden Melton led the War Eagles with eight points.

Left, War Eagle Chandler Rimmer pulls up for a midrange jumper. Center, Lady Rebel Molly French drives into the paint for two points. Right, Rebel Cole Brown drains one of his four three-pointers. *Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner*

Tennessee GOP Moves to Further Reshape Certificate of Need Laws

NASHVILLE — Tennessee lawmakers are advancing new proposals to further roll back the state's Certificate of Need (CON) regulations, continuing a sweeping overhaul of healthcare policy that began with last year's reforms.

The 2024 passage of Public Chapter No. 985 (HB2269/SB2009) significantly altered the state's healthcare landscape by eliminating CON requirements for certain facilities, including ambulatory surgical treatment centers (ASTCs) and diagnostic imaging services. It also set the stage for freestanding emergency departments (FSEDs) to operate without a CON beginning July 1, 2025.

Now, Republican lawmakers are pushing additional measures in the 114th General Assembly to further ease restrictions on healthcare facility expansion. Notable proposals include:

House Bill 0819 (HB0819) – Seeks to eliminate CON requirements for acute care hospitals beginning July 1, 2028.

Senate Bill 0853 (SB0853) – Amends state law to remove language that ties certain healthcare services to CON approval.

Senate Bill 1269 (SB1269) – Introduces a phased approach to further CON deregulation, with some provisions taking effect immediately upon passage and others in mid-2025.

The Tennessee Health Facilities Commission (HFC) remains responsible for overseeing the implementation of CON law changes. The commission is set to review compliance measures and new facility applications during its next meeting on February 26, 2025, in Nashville.

Meanwhile, healthcare providers and investors are closely watching the HFC's "Waiting Room" portal, where active CON applications and related regulatory decisions are publicly available.

Proponents argue that loosening CON laws will expand access to care, increase competition, and lower costs, particularly in underserved areas.

"This is about removing barriers and letting the free market determine where healthcare services are needed," said Senator Shane Reeves (R-District 14), a leading advocate for deregulation.

However, opponents, including the Tennessee Hospital Association (THA), warn that rural hospitals could suffer as profit-driven outpatient centers siphon away revenue from full-service hospitals.

"The financial viability of many rural hospitals is already fragile. Further weakening CON laws could push some of these facilities toward closure," said THA CEO Wendy Long, MD.

As these bills move through committee hearings, the debate over Tennessee's healthcare future intensifies. The HFC's February 26 meeting will provide insight into how the state plans to enforce the 2024 law while navigating the latest legislative proposals.

For now, the state's trajectory remains clear: Tennessee is continuing its aggressive push toward deregulating healthcare expansion.

Official Sources: Tennessee General Assembly, Tennessee Health Facilities Commission, Tennessee Hospital Association

NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE

Whereas, William G. Morgan and Clara L. Morgan, by Deed of Trust (the "Deed of Trust"), dated 2/18/2005 and of record in Deed Book 531, Pages 199-210, and as Instrument Number 106556, in Register's Office of Carroll County, Tennessee, conveyed to Dennie R. Marshall, Trustee , the hereinafter described real property to secure the payment of a certain Promissory Note (the "Note") described in the Deed of Trust, which Note was payable to GMAC Mortgage Corporation, and subsequently assigned to Freedom Mortgage Corporation, and Whereas, Nestor Solutions of Tennessee, LLC has been duly appointed Substitute Trustee by the owner and holder of the Note by instrument recorded in Deed Book 749, Pages 362-364 and as Instrument Number 206825 in Register's Office of Carroll County, Tennessee; and Whereas, default has been made in the payment of the Note; and Whereas, the owner and holder of the Note has demanded that the hereinafter described real property be advertised and sold in satisfaction of the indebtedness and costs of foreclosure in accordance with the terms and provisions of the Note and Deed of Trust. The notice requirements of T.C.A. §35-5-101 and 35-5-104 have been satisfied. Now, Therefore, notice is hereby given that an agent of Nestor Solutions of Tennessee, LLC, Substitute Trustee, pursuant to the power, duty, and authority vested in and conferred by the Deed of Trust, will proceed to sell the below-mentioned property on 3/13/2025, at 2:00 PM at the East Court House Door of the Carroll County Courthouse, 99 Court Square, Huntingdon, TN 38344, will be sold to the highest call bidder for cash free from all legal, equitable and statutory rights of redemption, exemptions of homestead, rights by virtue of marriage, and all other exemptions of every kind, all of which have been waived in the Deed of Trust, certain real property located in Carroll County, Tennessee, described as follows: All That Certain Parcel Of Land Situated In The County Of Carroll, State Of Tennessee, To Wit: Lying And Being In The 2nd Civil District Of Carroll County, Tennessee And Better Described As Follows: Beginning At An Iron Pin Set At The Southeast Corner Of The Lot Herein Described, Said Pin Also Being The Southwest Corner Of Billy L. Neal And Wife, Patricia A. Neal, (Deed Book 236, Page 179) Runs Thence With The South Line Of The Lot Herein Described, Which Is A North Line Of Billy Joe Mcknight And Wife, Irene Mcknight, (Deed Book 297, Page 198) South 86 Degrees 09 Minutes 00 Seconds West, 290.00 Feet To An Iron Pin Set At The Southwest Corner Of The Lot Herein Described, Runs Thence With The West Line Of Said Tract North 00 Degrees 00 Minutes 00 Seconds East, Passing An Iron Pin Set Online At A Distance Of 228.00 Feet, But Continuing On A Total Distance Of 253.00 Feet To A Point In The Center Of Highway 105 At The Northwest Corner Of The Tract Herein Described, Runs Thence With Said Centerline, North 89 Degrees 30 Minutes 00 Seconds East, 290.00 Feet To A Point At The Northeast Corner Of The Lot Herein Described, Which Is Also The Northwest Corner Of Aforementioned Billy L. Neal, Runs Thence With The East Line Of The Tract Herein Described, South 00 Degrees 09 Minutes 22 Seconds West, 236.06 Feet To The Point Of Beginning And Containing Within These Calls 1.63 Acres, As Surveyed By Richard N. Brown, R.L.S. 1778, Surveying Services, Inc., 41 Heritage Square, Jackson, Tennessee. Said Acreage Subject To The Right Of Way Of Highway 105 And All Other Right Of Ways Or Easements, If They Exists. This Being The Same Property Conveyed To William Morgan And Wife, Clara Morgan By Warranty Deed Of Timothy L. Neal And Wife, Cami A. Neal, Dated 02/18/2005, And Recorded In Deed Book 325 Page 77 , Register's Office Of Carroll County, Tennessee. Ingress/Egress Easement Beginning At A Point In The Centerline Of Highway 105, Said Point Being The Northeast Corner Of Tim L Neal And Wife, Cami A. Neal, (Deed Book 242, Page 337) And Also Being The Northwest Corner Of Billy L. Neal And Patricia A. Neal, (Deed Book 236, Page 719) Runs Thence With Said Centerline North 89 Degrees 30 Minutes 00 Seconds East, 178.00 Feet To A Point And South 89 Degrees 00 Minutes 00 Seconds East, 34.46 Feet To A Point At The Northeast Corner Of The Easement Herein Described, Runs Thence Through The Property Of Billy L. Neal And Patricia A. Neal, (Deed Book 236, Page 719) The Following Calls: South 01 Degrees 00 Minutes 00 Seconds West, 40.87 Feet To A Point, North 89 Degrees 00 Minutes 00 Seconds West, 35.00 Feet To A Point, South 89 Degrees 30 Minutes 00 Seconds West, 102,42 Feet To A Point At The Beginning Of A Curve To The Left, Thence With Said Curve To The Left Having An Angle Of 89 Degrees 20 Minutes 38 Seconds, Chord Direction Of South 44 Degrees 49 Minutes 41 Seconds West, Chord Distance Of 70.30, Arc Distance Of 77.97, And A Radius Of 50.00 Feet To A Point At The End Of Said Curve, Thence South 00 Degrees 09 Minutes 22 Seconds 50.00 Feet To A Point, And North 89 Degrees 50 Minutes 38 Seconds West, 25.00 Feet To A Point In The West Line Of Billy L. Neal, Runs Thence With Said Line North 00 Degrees 09 Minutes 22 Seconds East, Passing An Iron Pin Set Online At A Distance Of 114.99 Feet, But Continuing On A Total Distance Of 139.99 Feet To The Point Of Beginning And Containing Within These Calls 0.27 Acres, As Surveyed By Richard N. Brown, R.L.S. 1778, Surveying Services, Inc., 41 Heritage Square, Jackson, Tennessee. Said Acreage Subject To The Right Of Way Of Highway 105 And All Other Right Of Ways Or Easements, If They Exists. This Being Part Of The Same Property Conveyed To Billy L. Neal And Wife, Patricia A. Neal Of Recorded In Orbv 236, Page 719, Register's Office Of Gibson County, Tennessee. The street address of the above-described property is believed to be 490 HWY 105, Atwood, TN 38220, but if such address is not part of the legal description of the property sold herein and in the event of any discrepancy, the legal description herein shall control. This sale is subject to all matters shown on any applicable recorded plat; any unpaid taxes; any restrictive covenants, easements or setback lines that may be applicable; any statutory rights of redemption of any governmental agency, state or federal; any prior liens or encumbrances as well as any priority created by a fixture filing; and to any matter that an accurate survey of the premises might disclose. In addition, the following parties may claim an interest in the above-referenced property: Owner of Property: William G. Morgan and Clara L. Morgan Kenneth H Tozer II MD, Book 14, Pages 181-182 and as Instrument # 130827 Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC., Book 16, Pages 362-363 and as Instrument # 143575 The sale is subject to occupant(s) rights in possession of the premises. All right of equity of redemption, statutory and otherwise, and homestead are expressly waived in said Deed of Trust, and the title is believed to be good, but the undersigned will sell and convey only as Substitute Trustee. The right is reserved to adjourn the day of the sale to another day, time, and place certain without further publication, upon announcement at the time and place for the sale set forth above. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the purchase price. The purchaser shall have no further record against the grantor, the grantee or the trustee. Publication Dates: 2/18/2025, 2/25/2025, and 3/4/2025. Nestor Solutions of Tennessee, LLC, Substitute Trustee 214 5th Street, Suite 205 Huntington Beach, California 92648 Phone: (888) 403-4115 TS#: 2024-12528-TN

R25201/7-3

Left, (L to R) Amanda Paschal, Ella Marie Rogers, Ally Clarke, and Aiden Lummus. Right, (L to R) Amanda Paschal, Caden Blankenship, and Mariska Anguiano.

4-H Students Harness Wind Power With Budget-Friendly Turbines

Students in West Carroll's Mrs. Shanna Pafford's 6th-grade 4-H program are putting science into action by designing and building wind turbines—all on a budget of just $10. This hands-on project not only sparks creativity but also aligns with state science standards, reinforcing key STEM concepts like energy transformation, aerodynamics, and engineering design.

Using everyday materials such as straws, Popsicle sticks, spoons, and cups, participants construct and test their turbines to measure energy output. The process encourages problem-solving and innovation as students refine their designs for better efficiency.

By integrating renewable energy education into the classroom, this initiative equips young learners with valuable STEM skills, preparing them for future opportunities in science and engineering. Their work demonstrates that with curiosity and determination, big ideas can thrive—no big budget required.

WCES extends its gratitude to Amanda Paschal, University of Tennessee Agent III 4-H Youth Development, for her dedication to our students.

Gasoline Prices Rise During Week

TENNESSEE (February 17) — Average gasoline prices in Tennessee increased 5.1 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging $2.77/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 3,821 stations in Tennessee. Prices in Tennessee are 2.2 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 19.3 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has increased 0.8 cents in the last week and stands at $3.632 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Tennessee was priced at $2.39/g yesterday while the most expensive was $4.11/g, a difference of $1.72/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was $2.39/g while the highest was $4.11/g, a difference of $1.72/g.

The national average price of gasoline has risen 2.2 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging $3.11/g today. The national average is unchanged from a month ago and stands 16.5 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

Historical gasoline prices in Tennessee and the national average going back ten years: February 17, 2024: $2.96/g (U.S. Average: $3.28/g); February 17, 2023: $3.11/g (U.S. Average: $3.38/g); February 17, 2022: $3.28/g (U.S. Average: $3.51/g); February 17, 2021: $2.30/g (U.S. Average: $2.57/g); February 17, 2020: $2.18/g (U.S. Average: $2.44/g); February 17, 2019: $2.08/g (U.S. Average: $2.31/g); February 17, 2018: $2.32/g (U.S. Average: $2.52/g); February 17, 2017: $2.06/g (U.S. Average: $2.28/g); February 17, 2016: $1.51/g (U.S. Average: $1.71/g); February 17, 2015: $2.10/g (U.S. Average: $2.26/g).

"The national average has inched higher, driven primarily by sharp gas price increases on the West Coast, where refinery maintenance and outages have created a ripple effect in neighboring states, pushing prices higher in many communities," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "While most of the country has experienced a relatively quiet week for gas prices, the West Coast has seen rapid increases— a trend that should slow in the coming days. Although the surge remains isolated to the West for now, refinery maintenance will soon begin in other regions, and with the transition to summer gasoline blends underway, prices in most areas are likely to start rising in the weeks ahead. Meanwhile, oil prices remain subdued in the low $70s as President Trump works on a potential peace deal between Russia and Ukraine— an event that, if realized, could have significant implications for oil markets in the months ahead."

SOURCE GasBuddy

McKenzie Police Reports

Aggravated Criminal Trespassing —Kenny R. Mann, 53, Hamilton Street, McKenzie was charged with Aggravated Criminal Trespassing and Theft on February 13.

Officer Matthew Cunningham and Sergeant Cody Coleman received a call from a resident of Hamilton Street stating his wheel barrow, batteries, drive shafts, and antique steel car wheels were taken from his residence. He had video evidence to indicate the items were taken by his neighbor, Kenny Mann.

Officers went to Mann's house and interviewed him. Officers found the stolen items at Mann's home. He was arrested and transported to Carroll County Jail.

DUI, Resisting Arrest — Dylan Blake McSwain, 33, Mansfield, Tenn. was charged with Driving Under the Influence, Resisting Arrest, and Violation of Implied Consent on February 12.

Officer Dustin McClure was dispatched to Rivals for a report of an active fight. The officer observed a pickup truck leaving the restaurant and followed it. The pickup truck exited the roadway, striking a curb and then reentered the roadway. The vehicle stopped at a parking lot.

Officer McClure and Deputy Crowe asked McSwain to exit the vehicle. The officers reported he was unsteady on his feet and resisted being arrested. McSwain refused a blood-alcohol draw at the hospital, so the officers asked and received a warrant through Judge Michael King for the blood draw. McSwain was transported to Carroll County Jail.

Possession of Meth, Speeding — Rachel Maranda Johnsonius, 41, Union Church Road, McKenzie, was charged with Manufacturing Methampthamine, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, and Speeding on February 16.

Officer Steven Scott stopped Johnsonius' car for speeding. The officer said she appeared nervous, so he asked if he could search the car. She refused the request so the MPD canine Gotch was requested at the scene. The dog alerted on the vehicle providing probably cause for a search. The officer indicated he found a backpack with 1.4 grams of white crustal substance that field tested as meth, and a glass smoking pipe. She was arrested on the drug charges and cited into court on the charge of speeding.

Leaving The Scene Of An Accident — Larry Joe Logan, 78, Highway 436, McKenzie, was charged with Leaving The Scene Of An Accident on February 16.

Officer Tanner Jackson responded to Como Street, where a witness saw a gray Jeep strike a utility pole and then drove away. Broken parts of the Jeep were left at the scene. Carroll County Sheriff's Department received a report of a damaged Jeep turning into a residence in a subdivision.

The retired General Sessions Judge, Mr. Logan answered the door when officers went to the residence and Mr. Logan answered in the affirmative if he had been driving his Jeep. He opened the garage door when the vehicle was parked. The Jeep had front end damage, damaged front tires, a missing side fender, a broken windshield, a damaged bumper, and debris of wood in the driver's side fender.

Mr. Logan said he had hit a ditch after leaving a friend's house and did not realize he had struck a utility pole. He was aware of the damage and was planning to contact authorities.

Mr. Logan was cited into Carroll County General Sessions Court and has 10 days to report to the Carroll County Jail for booking.

Driving on a Revoked License — Stacy L. Garner, 49, Barksdale Avenue, McKenzie, was charged with Driving on a Revoked License on February 13.

Officer Dustin McClure observed Garner driving at around 11:58 p.m. and was aware of her license status. He cited her into Carroll County General Sessions Court.

John C. Barley, 27, Williston, Florida, was charged with Public Intoxication on February 12.

Officer Timothy Dillon responded to Cherry Avenue where two males were in a physical altercation. The other subject stated he was attempting to keep Barley from driving away from the residence while intoxicated.

Officer Dillon arrested Barley on a charge of Public Intoxication.

Failure to Appear — Kenneth R. Beckham, 38, Walnut Circle, McKenzie, was arrested on an outstanding warrant for Failure to Appear on February 13.

Assistant Chief Trey Boucher was dispatched to a disturbance on Walnut Circle. Mr. Beckham was found to have an outstanding warrant from the Milan Police Department. Beckham was transported to Carroll County Jail.

Carroll County General Sessions Court

HUNTINGDON (February 12) — The following cases were heard in Carroll County General Sessions Court on February 12.

Cases that resulted in a guilty plea or finding were:

Brittany Nicole Arrand, Hunter Ridge Apt., Huntingdon, guilty, Probation Violation, time served, six months extended probation.

Christopher Brown, Hebron Church Road, Hollow Rock, guilty, Probation Violation, time served.

Gary Hutchens, Travis Road, Martin, guilty, Driving While Canceled-Second or Subsequent Offense, $100 fine, time served, must obtain driver's license; dismissed, Displate of Registration Plate; dismissed, Violation of Financial Responsibility.

Clinton Dale Mann, Highway 22, McKenzie, guilty, Simple Possession/Casual Exchange, Drug Paraphernalia, $500 fine, two days jail.

Rashad McCreary, Walnut Circle, McKenzie, pre-trial diversion, Retaliation for Past Action-Attempt, alcohol, and drug evaluation ordered.

Travis B. Nunn, Cherrywood Avenue, McKenzie, guilty, Drivers License Must Be Carried, 48 hours jail, probation; dismissed, Display of Registration Plate.

Darren Washington, Magnolia Avenue, McKenzie, guilty, Probation Violation, guilty, time served.

Dustin Wright, Circle Drive, Gleason, guilty, Probation Violation, must complete rehabilitation.

Becky Hampton, Union Cross Road, Wildersville, dismissed, Theft of Property; dismissed, Probation Violation.

Keith O'Brien, McKenzie, dismissed, Allowing Dogs to Run At Large.

Antwon L. Owens, Walnut Street, McKenzie, dismissed, Theft; dismissed, Failure to Appear.

Barbara Robinette, Antioch Cove Road, Springville, dismissed, Probation Violation.

Carroll County Sheriff's Reports

Simple Assault — On February13, a victim contacted the sheriff's department regarding needing help after running over a dog that was in the road with her truck on McAdams Road. The dog's owner was chasing her on a four-wheeler yelling obscenities at her. The caller advised the male subject was yelling at her causing her in fear of her safety. Deputy Townes found the offender, William Linden Smith, 49, of Huntingdon, at his home; and he also fit the description of the man the victim described. Smith has previous charges of dogs running at large. The victim did want to press charges for assault. Smith was cited into court.

Drug/Narcotic Violation — On February 6, Deputy Townes initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle for having marijuana odor. After conducting a search, the driver Jesse Walls, 38, of Florida, had a black ball containing crystal meth and two small bags of marijuana on her person. She was charged with possession of Schedule 11 meth and marijuana.

Marriage Licenses

William Robert Gadd, Jr., 65, of Decatur, to Sandra Ann Kneip Arnold, 57, of Atwood.

Crystal Ann Mattox Barton, 39, of Huntingdon, to James Andrew Griffin, 42, of Covington.

Property Transfers

William M. and Jamie N. Moore to Deven and Lacy Rader in District 16.

Holly L. Bennett to James Blake in District 22.

Don A. and Jeanna C. Bush to Donald A. and Colton Bush in District 7.

Preston Lee and Rhnea Bennett Hall to Preston L and Rhnea B Hall as trustee in District 12.

Bert Ward to Mark Williams in District 18.

Allison M. Guynn to Allison M. and Vilous Guynn in District 16.

Elizabeth Rae Bates as Co-Executor to Elizabeth Rae Bates in District 22.

Edd and Lynn Scarbrough to William D. Trevathan in District 22.

Timothy Brandon Brown to Michael J. and Diane M. Morford in District 10.

Willie Lee Willis to Kalton Willis in District 15.

Willie Lee Willis to Jessica Zollifcoffer in District 15.

Willie Lee Willis to Monica Willis in District 15.

John Robert and Katrina Holancin to Derek A. and Mckenzie A. Galey in District 4.

Logan R. and Katie L. Mitchell to Brian S. and Melinda G. Webb in District 2.

Michael and Steven Haywood to Jimmy Siggers in District 8.

Kathleen M. Connors to Larry M. and Louann M. Smith in District 10.

Robert E. and Pamela L. Freeman to Keith Andrew and Myrna Louise Johnson in District 4.

Charles D. and Julie M. Ford to Braxton L. and Julianna M. Bolton in District 7.

Jeffery E. Cox to Eric Cole.

Teresa Ann Davis to Preston and Morgan Carter in District 11.

William Howard Legens to Hugo Becerra and Jose Becerra Hernandez in District 22.

Michael and Kimberly Creasy to Courtney Michele Creasy Kee in District 4.

Brittany Gowan to Cachengo, Inc. in District 11.

Austin Hoyt Thomas to Jeffery Martin and Tammy Lee Thomas in District 2.

Norval J. Stovall to Crystal Murray in District 24.

Sandy Denise Moore to Philip Edward Moore in Districts 12 and 24.

Heather Dempsey to Thousand Acre Lake Resort, LLC in District 12.

Steve Carter to Gun's Creek Hunting Club in District 9.

Brenda Marie Joins to Michael Lee Robertson in District 22.

McKenzie Police Department

NOTICE

Notice of sell of abandoned vehicles from the McKenzie Police Department impound. The following vehicles will be sold at public auction beginning 03/03/2025 if they are not claimed by the owners and any applicable fees paid and documentation provided.

1994 Ford CVL	Vin# 2FALP74W7RX189931
1999 Dodge RPC	Vin# 3B7HC13Y4XM589126
2010 Ford Fusion	Vin# 3FAHP0CGXAR144797
2003 Mercury MGL	Vin# 2MEFM75W73X607134
2000 Jeep Grand Cherokee	Vin# 1J4GW58N9YC105859
2001 Chevrolet Cavalier	Vin# 1G1JC524417115890
2001 SABB 93E	Vin# YS3DF78K117004980
2005 Chrysler Seb	Vin# 1C3EL46X85N581044
2010 Dodge Avenger	Vin# 1B3CC4FD5AN158491
2004 GMC Yukon	Vin# 1GKEC13ZX4R133612
2006 Ford Escape	Vin# 1FMCU04176KA37043
2007 Chevrolet Tahoe	Vin# 1GNFK13077R112510
2003 Triumph Tri Motorcycle	Vin# SMT600FS53J180577
2005 Nissan Altima	Vin# 1N4AL11D65C352899
1997 Chevy GK1	Vin# 2GCEK19R1V1264833
2002 Ford Ranger	Vin# 1FTZR45E82TA38604

These vehicles will be on www.govdeals.com. This website is open to the public, however, you must register on the website prior to bidding on any items.

A777/6-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

PROBATE CASE NO: 2025PE19

ESTATE OF: GORDON LEE BATEMAN, LATE OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Notice is hereby given that on the 6TH day of FEBRUARY, 2025 Letters Testamentary, of Administration, in respect to the Estate of GORDON LEE BATEMAN deceased, who died SEPTEMBER 15TH, 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 6TH day of FEBRUARY, 2025.
THIS NOTICE WILL RUN TWO CONSECUTIVE WEEKS.

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

FARA D. SUDLOW, Executor/Administrator
LAURA A. KEETON, Attorney
KENNETH TODD, Clerk & Master

A561/R25202/7-2

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

(As required by Chapter No. 886, Public Acts of Tennessee 1939 as amended. Sections 30-2-306, Tennessee Code Annotated).

2025PE22

ESTATE OF SCOTT WILLIAMS

Notice is hereby given that on the 5TH day of FEBRUARY, 2025 Letters Testamentary, in respect of the Estate of Scott Williams, deceased, who died January 20, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Probate Court of Carroll County, Tennessee.

All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the **Kenneth Todd, 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 of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors, if the creditor received the 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 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 the 5TH day of FEBRUARY, 2025.

Ernie S. Williams

Paul Kevin Carter
Attorney for Estate
P.O. Box 476
Lexington, TN 38351

Kenneth Todd
Probate Clerk
99 Court Square, Suite 105
Huntingdon, TN 38344

A561/R25202/7-2

ADVERTISEMENT FOR REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Carroll County Government (Tennessee)

Please notice that the Carroll County Mayors Office is requesting sealed statements of qualifications (RFQ) from engineering firms for a Community Block Grant (CDBG) project. Professional engineering services are needed to provide: a preliminary engineering report and opinion of probable cost, project design, construction phased services, and construction inspection necessary to implement this project.

Proposals, statements, 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, March 4, 2025, at which time each will be opened and considered.

Copies of RFQ documents may be obtained at the Carroll County Mayors Office at the above address, or by email at jbutler@carroll.tn.org.

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 proposals, to waive any and all informalities and to negotiate contract terms with the successful company/firm, and the right to disregard all non-conforming, non-responsive, or conditional bids.

Joseph G. Butler, Mayor
Publication Date: 2/14/2025

A13/7-2

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Carroll County, Tennessee

Please notice that the Carroll County Mayors Office shall accept sealed written bids for **Palmer Shelter Road, 1.0 Miles, Asphalt 1.0 miles with 1 ½ inch thick 20 feet wide, 40-ton level (BpmB-Hm), C.W. Mix 165 LBS. P.S.Y, Virgin Materials, Meets T.D.O.T specifications with Painter Lines.**

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, March 4, 2025**, at which time the bids will be opened and considered.

Copies of bid documents may be obtained at the Carroll County Mayors Office at the above address, or by email at jbutler@carroll.tn.org.

Carroll County Highway Dept at 731-986-1997 Ronnie Wade.

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: 2-17-25

A3123/7-2

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Carroll County, Tennessee

Please notice that the Carroll County Mayors Office shall accept sealed written bids for **Hampton Cemetery, Beginning Hwy 22 to Anark, Length 1.2, Width 20 feet, C.W. Mix, Painted Lines, Virgin Material, Meets T.D.O.T specifications, 1.65 P.S.Y**

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, March 4, 2025,** at which time the bids will be opened and considered.

Copies of bid documents may be obtained at the Carroll County Mayors Office at the above address, or by email at jbutler@carroll.tn.org.

Carroll County Highway Dept at 731-986-1997 Ricky Scott.

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: 2-17-25

A3123/7-2

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Carroll County, Tennessee

Please notice that the Carroll County Mayors Office shall accept sealed written bids for **Concord Road, from Smyrna intersection to Anark, Length 1.6, Width 20 feet, C.W. Mix, Painted lines, Virgin Material, Meets T.D.O.T specifications, 1.65 P.S.Y**

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, March 4, 2025**, at which time the bids will be opened and considered.

Copies of bid documents may be obtained at the Carroll County Mayors Office at the above address, or by email at jbutler@carroll.tn.org.

Carroll County Highway Dept at 731-986-1997 Ricky Scott.

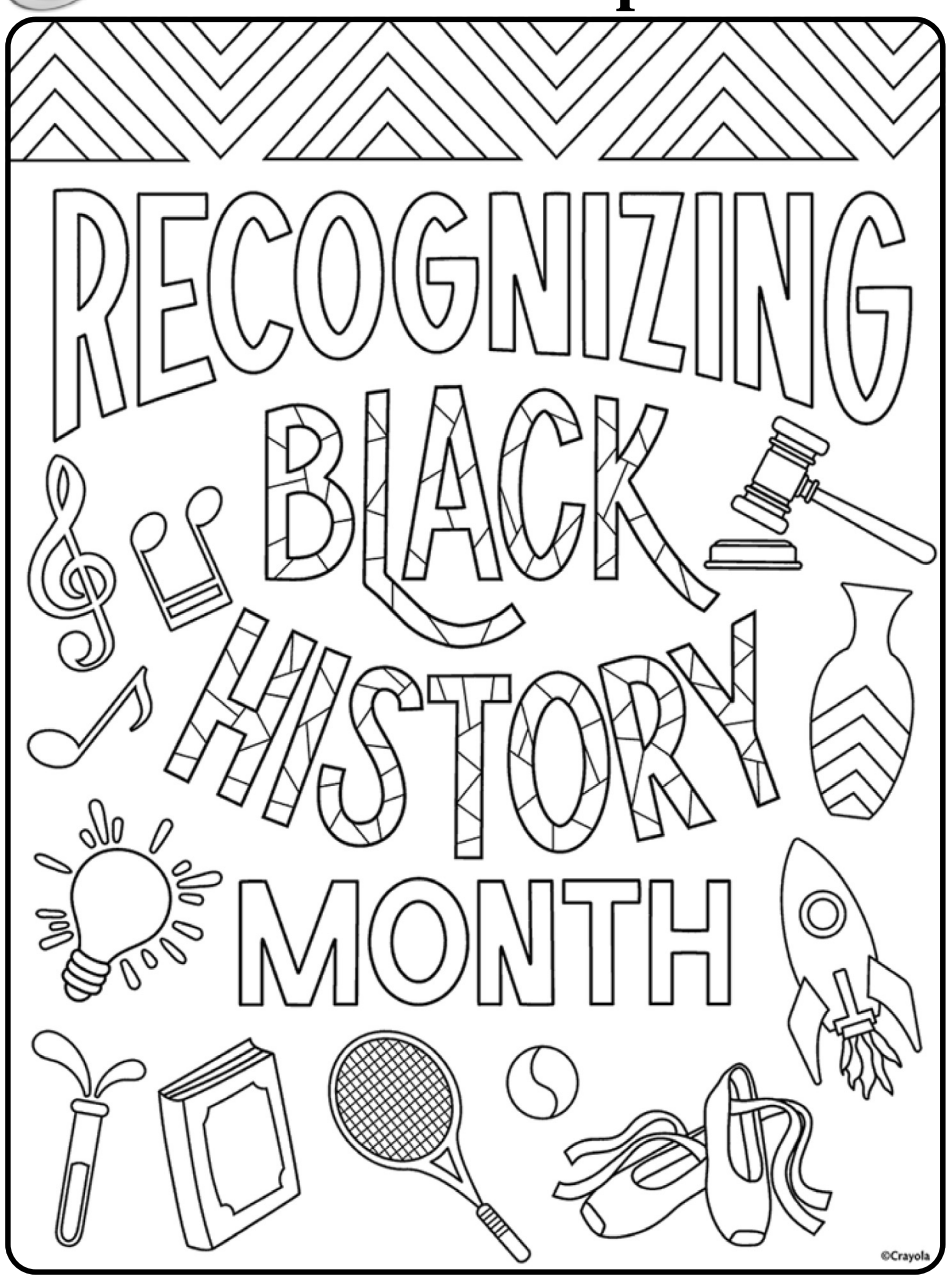
All interested parties, without regard of race, color or national origin, shall be afforded the opportunity to bid and shall receive equal consideration. Title VI states "No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied 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.

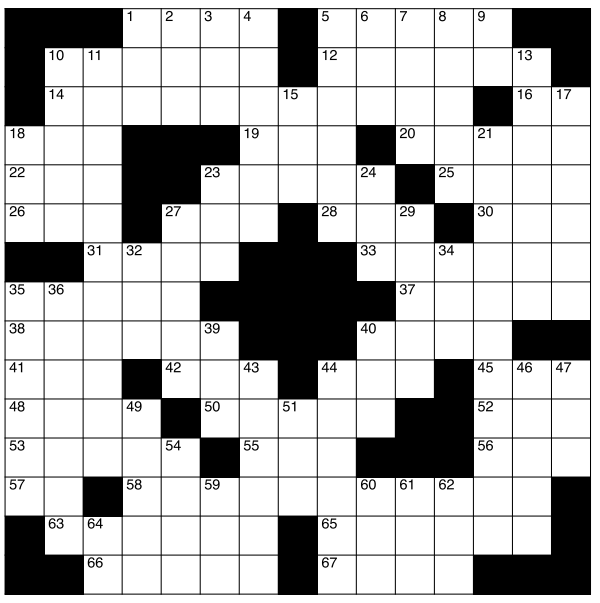
Joseph G. Butler, Mayor
Publication Date: 2-17-25

A3123/7-2

Color A Masterpiece



Weekly Crossword



CLUES ACROSS

1. Tropical Asian plant
5. Yankees' slugger Judge
10. Helps to preserve food
12. Plant disease
14. One who predicts
16. Equally
18. Burundian franc
19. Pouch
20. Arizona city
22. Surround
23. Hard, heavy timber
25. Witnessed
26. They __
27. French river
28. A way to drink
30. Small constellation
31. Peruse a written work
33. Type of hound
35. Plant of the goosefoot family
37. Evade or escape
38. A way to confine
40. Volcanic crater
41. Weekday
42. Women's service organization (abbr.)
44. Local area network
45. Sensory receptor
48. Posted
50. Tibetan pastry
52. Licensed for Wall Street
53. Very willing
55. Golf score
56. Consume
57. Touchdown
58. Tends to remind
63. In a way, smoothed
65. Poke holes in the ground
66. Herbaceous plants
67. Taiwanese river

CLUES DOWN

1. Body art
2. Boxing's GOAT
3. Film for posterity (abbr.)
4. Prayer
5. Calculating machine
6. Keyboard key
7. Outburst
8. Man-eating giants
9. New Hampshire
10. Type of sword
11. Counting
13. Pants style
15. Political action committee
17. U.S. government legislative branch
18. Civil Rights Act component
21. Contractors take one
23. Spanish soldier
24. A person's brother or sister
27. Expressed pleasure
29. Song of praise
32. Shock treatment
34. Patti Hearst's captors
35. Counteract
36. Goes over again
39. Popular Dodge truck
40. Male adult
43. A part of a river where the current is very fast
44. Rope used to lasso
46. Become less intense
47. Subway rodent
49. Lead alloy
51. Japanese honorific title
54. Advise someone
59. Famous NYC museum
60. Ocean
61. Cathode-ray tube
62. Cologne
64. It starts with these two

Week 7

See solution in next week's edition.

Heart Health Word Search

F	S	N	C	I	L	O	T	S	Y	S	I	H	F	E	L	P	K	T	R
Y	R	A	N	O	R	O	C	C	E	E	P	P	Y	T	L	D	L	R	B
U	Y	K	S	E	G	U	R	A	C	U	U	F	C	C	I	M	C	A	M
M	V	A	M	T	R	P	O	G	S	E	V	L	A	V	L	I	U	D	A
B	S	E	D	I	R	E	C	Y	L	G	I	R	T	E	N	N	N	V	O
O	P	R	N	D	B	O	F	U	A	P	Y	L	S	O	M	T	L	C	E
L	C	F	Y	T	S	L	K	O	F	I	A	S	M	U	B	H	E	I	S
O	O	I	I	S	R	A	O	E	E	R	M	L	B	A	S	Y	Y	R	C
R	I	C	E	M	N	I	R	O	T	E	U	Y	O	U	N	N	T	S	M
E	N	R	K	R	C	D	C	I	D	P	H	R	H	N	N	S	A	I	P
T	T	E	D	D	H	R	M	L	C	P	T	R	C	T	I	C	P	S	A
S	N	C	I	O	L	A	F	P	E	I	R	A	H	G	R	T	K	O	C
E	H	R	P	T	V	C	V	S	C	P	R	E	O	E	H	R	A	B	E
L	T	R	U	B	S	Y	K	G	B	D	R	L	S	N	A	A	A	M	M
O	S	G	C	F	L	H	A	G	I	E	O	E	R	S	T	R	H	O	A
H	C	O	S	H	S	C	Y	A	T	I	N	L	S	K	U	D	T	R	K
C	P	L	I	O	U	A	C	V	D	K	K	H	F	S	D	R	R	H	E
B	T	Y	R	A	O	T	U	R	L	P	U	L	S	E	U	Y	E	T	R
O	C	I	T	K	A	D	A	E	R	U	L	I	A	F	H	R	M	F	S
F	F	C	B	I	U	C	A	C	K	Y	H	S	T	N	E	E	E	K	F

Aortic
Blood Pressure
Cardiac
Cardiologist
Cholesterol
Coronary
Electrocardiogram
Failure
Heart
Mitral
Pacemaker
Pressure
Pulmonic
Pulse
Stress
Stroke
Systolic
Tachycardia
Thrombosis
Triglycerides
Valves
Ventricle

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

FEBRUARY 20

1521: Juan Ponce de León sets out from Spain for Florida.

1792: George Washington signs the Postal Service Act.

1872: The Metropolitan Museum of Art opens in New York City.

SUDOKU

WEEK 7

		7		1		5	2	9
3		9		6	5	1		4
5		4	8	9				
8							6	
				8		7		5
1							9	
	5	1	9			6	3	2
		8	2		3	9		
	3			4	1			

Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

See solution in next week's edition.

CRYPTO FUN

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Solve the code to discover words related to heart health.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 11 = R)

A. **15 6 5 11 10**
Clue: Pumps in chest

B. **13 5 11 14 3 4 23 5 12 13 20 1 5 11**
Clue: Having to do with the heart

C. **2 11 6 12 12 20 11 6**
Clue: Force of blood moving through body

D. **23 6 12 12 6 1**
Clue: Vein or artery

Answers: A. heart B. cardiovascular C. pressure D. vessel

LETTER MIX-UP

How many words can you make by rearranging the letters in the phrase below? Use each letter only once.

CARDIOVASCULAR

1. _____ 11. _____
2. _____ 12. _____
3. _____ 13. _____
4. _____ 14. _____
5. _____ 15. _____
6. _____ 16. _____
7. _____ 17. _____
8. _____ 18. _____
9. _____ 19. _____
10. _____ 20. _____

Riddle Me This

What has a heart but no other organs?

Answer: A deck of cards.

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to this week's theme.

AQPEUL

Answer: Plaque

GUESS WHO?

I am a singer born in Canada on February 16, 1990. I began to gain a following after anonymously uploading my songs to YouTube. I went on to release a mixtape, which was met with acclaim. I have since won multiple Grammy awards.

Answer: The Weeknd

We do the legwork to keep you informed.
The McKenzie Banner, 731.352.3323

Week 6 Crossword Puzzle Solution

PUZZLE SOLUTION

A	T	P								T	H	O	R	
T	U	L	A						G	O	O	S	E	
O	V	A	L					O	R	I	O	L	E	
M	A	N	E	T			S	C	A	L	D	E	D	
I	L	E	U	S		P	I	O	N	E	E	R		
C	U	T	T	H	E	M	U	S	T	A	R	D		
					N	I	L		I	R	S			
				A	A	R		A	L	Y				
			B	I	B		B	D	L					
		H	O	L	L	Y	W	O	O	D	S	I	G	N
	R	O	O	M	I	E	R			A	W	A	R	E
M	A	R	T	E	N	S				D	E	M	O	S
E	N	D	I	N	G						A	B	U	T
S	K	E	E	T							R	I	C	E
H	E	S	S									C	H	R

SUDOKU SOLUTION WEEK 6

5	8	1	9	4	7	3	2	6
2	7	6	1	3	5	4	9	8
4	9	3	6	2	8	1	7	5
8	2	7	4	5	3	9	6	1
6	4	9	8	7	1	5	3	2
3	1	5	2	6	9	7	8	4
1	3	8	5	9	2	6	4	7
7	5	4	3	8	6	2	1	9
9	6	2	7	1	4	8	5	3

HELP WANTED

LORI'S HAIR SOLUTIONS — WE'RE HIRING Licensed Cosmetologist and Nail Tech. 28 Waldren Street, McKenzie. 731-694-9916. R25136/5-5

FOR RENT

HOUSES AND APARTMENTS: MCKENZIE AREA. www.mckenziehomefinders.com 731-352-2255. A1219/44-TF

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REPLACE YOUR ROOF WITH THE BEST LOOKING and longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-855-281-6212. (TnScan)

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EAGLE BUILDINGS — NEW & USED PORTABLE BUILDINGS, Cabins, Carports & Garages. 314 Memorial Dr., Paris (731) 644-0090; 202 Memorial Dr., Paris (731) 641-2800; 17595 Highland Dr., McKenzie (731) 393-0277; 1409 Hwy 70 W, Camden (731) 279-4192; 15035 S. First St., Milan (731) 613-2166; 586 W. Church St., Lexington (731) 249-9184; 852 University St., Martin (731) 281-7117. eaglebuildingstn.com. A7655/50-TF

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FOR LEASE

QUALITY OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE — From 430 Sq. Ft. to 3,000 Sq. Ft. Highway 79 Highland Mall, across from the post office. Call 731-352-2189. A5404/44-TF

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GIVE US A CALL FREE ESTIMATES
Joey Anderson or Ricky Anderson
697-5350 or 431-6901

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Thankful for the Babies of 2024

Congratulations to the Babies of 2024!

Pregnancy is one of the most blessed and challenging times of a parent's life.

There is so much to do and learn to prepare for a baby; and when baby arrives, it is full speed ahead — the time goes by so quickly. Take lots of photos because one day you will look back and wonder how they were ever that small.

Thank you for sharing your little ones with us via this special keepsake. Sponsors, thank you for supporting this project. Readers, please consider visiting the businesses that supported this edition. When we support each other, we all thrive.

The Banner is thankful for the wonderful communities we serve; and thankful for all the Babies of 2024!

We hope you enjoy this special keepsake dedicated to your loved one.

Welcome to the World, Babies of 2024!

— The Banner Staff

Help a Child Grow as a Person

Parents want their children to be successful, healthy and happy. That often means providing the best education, encouraging quality friendships and being supportive. Here are steps that parents can take to promote youngsters' personal growth.

- **Respond to children's sounds and gestures.** Parents should treat baby talk as real conversation. Engaging with a baby's gurgles and actions helps development. As the child grows, responding to their words and questions can help expand a child's vocabulary and boost reading levels.
- **Help kids find their lanes.** It is reasonable for parents to want their children to follow in their footsteps. Sometimes they push their kids into paths that do not fit. Helping kids find their niche requires trial and error, patience, and creativity. Eventually, children will discover their passions.
- **Provide love and support, not criticism.** Parents can be their kids' biggest fans, but not at the cost of doing everything for them or shielding them from disappointment. They also should not be harsh critics. Parents have to find a balance. Adversity can help kids grow.
- **Share your own stories.** Children may be embarrassed by struggles or failures and want to give up. One of the best ways to be supportive is by sharing stories of one's own struggles and how they overcame them.
- **Talk about mistakes that ultimately proved learning opportunities.** Children may believe they have to be perfect at everything, and that can set them up for failure when they don't accomplish every goal. Adults can offer an example of a mistake they made that helped them grow.
- **Make time for fun.** Success doesn't always come just from hard work. It also involves knowing when it is time to let loose and unwind with enjoyable activities. Learning opportunities don't always need to be chores. Learning through play and exploration also is possible.

Children can grow and develop positive traits with support from their parents.

Baby Safety Tips For New Parents

Becoming parents for the first time is a joyous experience nine months in the making. First-time parents may be a little apprehensive about life with an infant. Despite all the books, well-meaning relatives and personal research, a lot of what goes into caring for an infant is a combination of instinct and trial and error.

Safety and security is paramount when caring for a baby. An infant relies on his or her parents for everything, including a safe environment in which to grow. New parents can keep these safety guidelines in mind as they care for their children.

Car Safety

A trip home from the hospital likely will be the first car ride your baby will take. The American Academy of Pediatrics says most injuries and deaths from car crashes can be prevented by the use of car safety seats. An infant should ride in the back seat in a rear-facing car seat. Ensure the seat is installed correctly by reading and following the instructions that come with the car seat as well as instructions in the vehicle manual.

Bath Time

Babies and young children can drown in just one to two inches of water, advises Nationwide Children's Hospital. When bathing a baby, never leave the child alone in the bathtub, even for a second. Use a sink or an infant tub with a non-skid mat so that most of the baby's body and all of his or her face is out of the water. Keep all supplies within reach so you can keep one hand on your baby at all times. Check the temperature of the water with a thermometer to make sure it is not too hot, as babies can be scalded at temperatures that would not cause burns in adults.

Falls

Although infants cannot crawl or walk early on, they will wiggle and push against things with their feet. Soon your baby will be able to roll over. Do not leave your baby alone on changing tables, elevated furniture, beds, and the like. When your child is able to crawl, extra caution is needed to block off staircases or rooms where he or she might get hurt.

Sleep

Babies will spend a lot of time sleeping, and their cribs and bassinets should meet current safety standards. Well-meaning parents or grandparents may want to pass down a crib but that crib might not meet the safety requirements recommended today.

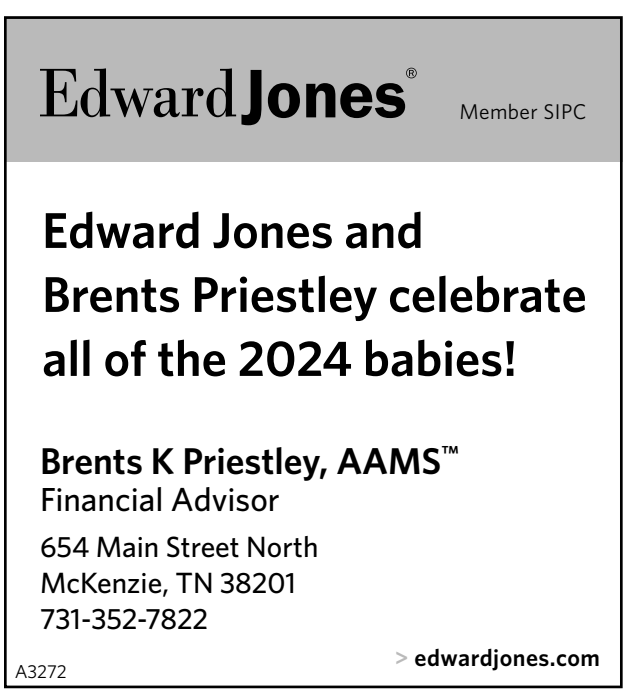
Mattresses should be firm and fit snugly inside of a crib or bassinet. Keep items like comforters, quilts, stuffed toys, pillows, and bumpers out of the crib, as each can increase the risk for suffocation. Use a wearable zip-up blanket sack for the baby instead.

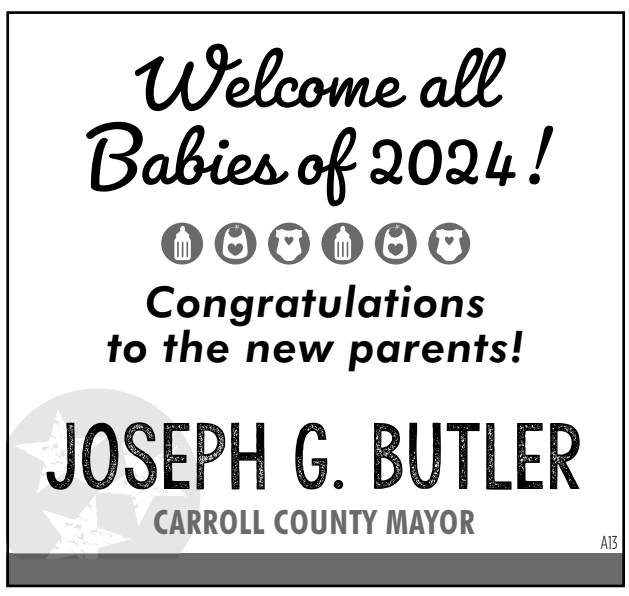
The Safe to Sleep® campaign was instituted in 1994 by the AAP Task Force and recommends babies be placed on their backs to sleep for naps and overnight to help reduce instances of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS). Breastfeeding, sharing a room with a baby for the first six months and offering a baby a pacifier also can help reduce SIDS.

These safety guidelines are some of the many recommendations parents can keep in mind when caring for their babies.

Did You Know?

Postpartum depression is a type of depression that can affect women shortly after they give birth. Although most mothers experience some sort of "baby blues," which can be characterized by mood swings, anxiety and trouble sleeping within the first two to three days after delivery, postpartum depression is a more severe and longer-lasting mental health disorder, indicates the Mayo Clinic. The Cleveland Clinic estimates that up to 15 percent of women who have given birth develop postpartum depression. Women with PPD should realize they are not alone, it's not their fault, and that there are treatment options to help new mothers overcome the condition.





THANKFUL FOR BABIES OF 2024

Time to celebrate, the new year is here.
We are honoring babies born this past year.

Merrick John Couch

Born: February 5, 2024
Parents: Nathan and Laura Couch
Grandparents: John and Amanda Oakley
Thankful for: Our happy boy!

Ruby Kate Kee

Born: July 31, 2024
Parents: Cameron Kee and Lillian Kee
Thankful for: God for our healthy baby girl! Her calm personality, eye batting, and radiant smile bring us immense joy!

Stetson Blaze Whitaker

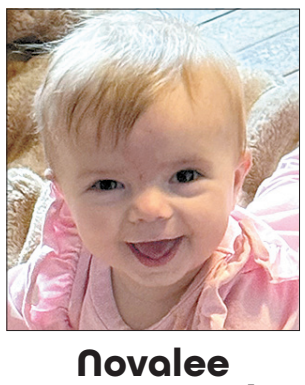
Born: April 13, 2024
Parents: Lee and Stacey Whitaker
Thankful for: Stetson's sweet laugh and smile!

Amiya King

Born: August 7, 2024
Parents: Julie Burlison and Michael King
Thankful for: Healthy baby girl.

Connor & Colton Prince

Born: August 28, 2024
Parents: Keith and Kendall Prince
Thankful for: Even though they were a month early, we are very blessed they're healthy.



Novalee Joanna-Jude Hobbs

Born: July 20, 2024
Parents: Carly and Max Hobbs
Thankful for: Our beautiful rainbow baby.

Hayden Michael Minton

Born: October 11, 2024
Parents: Brad and Terriann Minton
Thankful for:A happy, healthy baby boy.

Wyatt Tuck Cary

Born: August 13, 2024
Parents: Dylan Cary and Celinas Phifer
Thankful for: Our little family.

Annie Louden

Born: March 26, 2024
Parents: Hunter and Brittney Louden
Thankful for: The purpose/ plans the Lord has for Annie, and the gift that she is to our Family.

Holt Thomas Lindsey

Born: April 21, 2024
Parents: Peyton and Faith Lindsey
Thankful for: All God has given us, especially our newest addition and proud big brother, Holder.

Easton Rawls

Born: July 25, 2024
Parents: Cameron and Amber Rawls
Thankful for: Healthy and Happy baby.

Jasper Reece

Born: December 28, 2024
Parents: Catilin and Sam Reece
Thankful for: A healthy baby!

Keaton Rowdy White

Born: July 14, 2024
Parents: Kyler White and Abbey Lovelady

Everett Dodd

Born: November 16, 2024
Parents: Michael and Angela Dodd
Thankful for: My family.

Adeline Walker

Born: December 30, 2024
Parents: Alex Walker and Bailey Reeves
Thankful for: A healthy baby!

Mason Wells Richardson

Born: November 1, 2024
Parents: Mariah Richardson and Carson Richardson
Thankful for: My family of 4, that is now complete!

Richard Spencer Kole Moon

Born: July 24, 2024
Parents: Gage and Katey Moon
Thankful for: Our healthy rainbow baby.

Ryleigh Mae Kee

Born: May 23, 2024
Parents: Ryan and Amber Kee
Thankful for: A happy and healthy blessing from God and proud big brother, Lyndel!

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Bethel Alumna McGill To Appear on The Voice

The Voice premiered February 3, 2025 at 7 p.m. and will feature a Bethel University graduate, who participated in the Renaissance program. The NBC broadcast includes Emily McGill of Jackson.

Her mother Paula Bridges McGill indicated Katie's first appearance could possibly be on Monday, February 24. Local persons have followed the show each week in anticipation of watching Emily.

Emily is a soulful country-inspired singer/songwriter with a strong musical pedigree from Jackson, Tenn., where she grew up singing in a family band, the Paula Bridges Band, and working in her dad's local music store, The Bandstand.

Watch episodes on NBC.com and the NBC App. Kelsea Ballerini, Michael Bublé, John Legend and Adam Levine are the coaches for this year.

Above, West Carroll High School Homecoming Royalty and escorts (L to R): McKenna Pruitt, escorted by Kade Jaeger; Britni Shepherd, escorted by Hayden Wingo and Isaiah Snyder; Queen Chloe Williams, escorted by Trinden Kirby; Karma Wilkey, escorted by Ryder Krawczyk; and Gracelyn Vernon, escorted by Mason Taylor. Below, West Carroll High School Homecoming Queen Chloe Williams. *Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner*

Williams is West Carroll Homecoming Queen

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

ATWOOD (February 13) — Senior Chloe Williams was crowned West Carroll High School Homecoming Queen Thursday during pregame festivities.

Williams is the daughter of Tony and Tiffany Wlliams. She was escorted by Trinden Kirby.

Other senior representatives in the royalty included Madison Autry, daughter of Brenda Falls, and Karma Wilkey, daughter of Bryan and Dagan Wilkey, escorted by Ryder Krawczyk.

The junior representative was Britni Shepherd, daughter of Mickey and Judy Keen, escorted by Isaiah Snyder and Hayden Wingo.

The sophomore representative was Gracelyn Vernon, daughter of Justin and Amanda Cagle, escorted by Mason Taylor.

The freshman representative was McKenna Pruitt, daughter of Nick and Crystal Pruitt, escorted by Kade Jaeger.

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McKenzie Rotary Hears About Land Between the Lakes

McKENZIE (February 11) — Members of the Rotary Club of McKenzie heard about the Land Between the Lakes Association during the weekly meeting on February 11 at Bethel University.

Elaine Jackson and Steve Nolan presented a program of the many recreational and other fun activities planned at the 170,000 acres of land lying between the Kentucky Lake and Barkley Lake. The recreational area, operated by the United States Forest Service, has backcountry hiking, bison and elk reserves, 1,400 campsites, horseback riding, a planetarium, an 1850s working primitive farm, and miles of winding roads through some of the most beautiful landscapes in Tennessee and Kentucky.

Elaine Jackson heads the volunteer service program at LBL. It offers volunteer and service opportunities for all ages, camps for organizations, and learning opportunities for student and adult individuals and groups.

For more information,, call 1-800-525-7077 or visit Facebook at @ friendsoflandbetweenthelakes, or @ LBLNatlRecArea.

Pictured are Brooklyn McDowell, a Bethel student and relative of Elaine Jackson (pictured second), Rotary Vice-President Ricky Price, and Steve Nolan.

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